May 13-

JOHN BULL

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For meaning of this No. see Page iii. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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Vol. X. No. 261. Saturday, June 3rd, 1911. One Penny.

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All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

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MR. HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, M.P.,

Will Address a MONSTER MEETING of his Constituents

IN THE

HACKNEY EMPIRE (Mare Street, Hackney),

ON

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 10th,

At 3.30.

Chairman : T. E. YOUNG, Esq., B.A.
(an Ex-Mayor of Hackney).

At this Meeting Mr. Bottomley will explain his attitude of independence in the House of Commons, and his present relationship towards the South Hackney Liberal and Radical Association.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

SOUTH HACKNEY LEADS THE WAY.

As will be gathered from the announcement above, Mr. Bottomley will, at the Hackney Empire, on Saturday next, June 10th, vindicate his attitude of political independence, and explain his present relationship to the Liberal Party. The Hackney Empire is capable of accommodating between 5,000 and 6,000 people, but it is anticipated that long before the proceedings commence, "House Full" will be up. In itself, the meeting, and the circumstances surrounding it, may not be of supreme importance; but who shall say of what big things it may be the beginning?

THOSE BANK BALANCES AND SECURITIES.

We have at last converted the House of Commons to the justice of our measure to compel bankers to disclose their dormant balances and unclaimed securities, with a view to the same being handed over to the Public Trustee. Upon two occasions running now, we have secured a first reading of the Bill without any opposition—a striking contrast to its reception when first brought forward. Now we must have that Select Committee.

"JOHN BULL" REVELATIONS.

We are organising an Open Air Campaign throughout the country to draw the attention of the man in the street to our Prudential, Akbar Reformatory, and other revelations. Although nearly everybody reads us, we intend to see that no one has an excuse for not hearing of us and our work.

THE SHOPS BILL.

Do not be surprised to see this measure dropped. In the words of the Turf tipster, "What did we tell you?"

"BRITISH" ALIENS.

A suggestion has been made to us, which we think worthy of consideration, to the effect that aliens coming over to this country should be prohibited by law from adopting British names. Several cases have recently been before the criminal courts in which the prisoners have disguised their nationality in this way.

BRITAIN'S BIG AIRSHIP.

Here's luck to the big airship, launched the other day at Barrow. Zeppelin airships seem accursed, but may this monster never burst.

WE *Don't* THINK!

We beg to ask whether the Irish Crown Jewels will be taken out of pawn in time for the Coronation?

ABUSE OF A NATURAL ADVANTAGE.

The Speaker of the present House of Commons tells a good tale of a member, in years gone by, who was extremely deaf. Being desirous of missing nothing, it was his habit, whenever a member rose, to take a seat near him and listen attentively with his ear trumpet. It was whilst thus engaged upon one occasion that Disraeli turned to a friend behind him and observed: "Did you ever see a man so wilfully abuse his natural advantages?"

HARRY LAUDER IN THE LOBBY.

It was very interesting the other day to observe Harry Lauder, under the guidance of Sir Henry Dalziel, button-holing the various Party leaders on behalf of the poor pit ponies. He was quite the centre of attraction, and it was difficult to resist his insinuating appeals.

EAST FIFE AND MR. ASQUITH.

We note with pleasure that the constituents of Mr. Asquith have organised a testimonial to him in recognition of his 25 years' service as their member. Twenty-five years ago they did not dream that they were electing a Prime Minister—and a great Prime Minister. As we have said before, Mr. Asquith's nature has softened wonderfully under the burdens of leadership, although he has only one way of reaching the human heart—through the head. The methods of most of the great Parliamentary orators have usually been quite the opposite. But their speeches did not "last."

NO WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE.

Mr. William O'Brien, he who in the Irish Balfourian days declined to wear his breeches, will probably be greatly pleased at the result of the election petition in East Cork, Captain Donelan, the Redmondite whip who defeated him, being unseated. But the grief of the gallant captain will be unmeasured. Think of having to go out of the House just as one is coming into £400 a year!

ST. ANDREW'S-BY-THE-WARDROBE.

This is not the name of a public-house, but of a London City church, of which the Rev. Clementi Smith is rector. Our rev. brother has a legal vendetta against people who shout in the streets, and it was at his instance the other day that a newspaper seller was summoned—and discharged. The law of street noises strains at a gnat and swallows a camel. As Mr. Plowden put it in another case, "the most noisy noises are not objected to, but lesser noises come under the law. 'Shrimps' is fatal. Next time blow a cab whistle for ten minutes and nobody will mind." Or, he might have added, get a new motor signal—a combination of the Last Trump and the first concertina.

CASTE.

The hon. secretaries in charge of the Harlington (Middlesex) Coronation Festivities announce that "all householders and their families who occupy houses of the rateable value of £12 or under will be entertained on the first day, and those living in houses over £12 will be entertained on the second day." At the last Coronation the arrangements made by the Parish Council were similar. They advertised by poster that the first day's festivities would be for "men and women," and the second day's festivities for "ladies and gentlemen." Apparently there are only two classes of society in Harlington as in the rest of the world: the upper ten and the lower nine.

TERRIBLE TURKS.

Things are at last beginning to hum in the Near East. The cup of Turkish iniquity begins to overflow. After the selfish and unscrupulous revolution of a few ambitious officers, the state of the Empire is worse than it has ever been; corruption, oppression and crime are the keynotes of the new system. And the ingratitude of it all! The Albanians, who alone made the change possible, are attacked and would be exterminated if they did not happen to be sturdy, fighting fellows. Meanwhile, there might have been years of local disturbance, but for an impudent aggression upon one of the wisest and bravest of statesmen in Europe, the King of Montenegro. He has already defeated the Turks in pitched battle more than once, but his dominions and resources are small enough to invite the attack of an enemy. Now, however, he has shown his hand, or rather the Czar has shown it for him, and the Turkish camarilla is faced with the alternatives of submission or disaster. We do not anticipate another Russo-Turkish war, but this time there would be no stopping at the gates of Constantinople.

HOLY MOSES.

Dr. Roberts, president of the Swadlincote District Free Church Council, says that if he believed in re-incarnation he should say that Moses had reappeared in the person of Mr. Lloyd George. Which reminds us of an incident which occurred during the General Election at a certain political club. The discussion in a corner of the smoking-room had become very warm. "Say what you will about Mr. Lloyd George," said a man in the group to his Tory guest, "but I tell you he is the greatest statesman, the most inspiring prophet, the most——" "Look here," interrupted the guest, "you are not going to claim that he is Moses, are you?" "You wait a bit, just wait a bit," was the enthusiastic retort; "he's only young yet." Well, he has aged a bit of late.

PLAYING WITH PETER.

Poor old Peter Karageorgevitch! First he thought he had contrived to crawl into the Austrian Court by a plentiful sacrifice of national interests. Then Francis Joseph reflected that he really must draw the line somewhere, so he made the usual excuse of indisposition. Then it was announced with a great flourish of trumpets that the old drunkard would be received in Paris, where he used to know his way about in the least reputable quarters during his exile. A fine programme was drawn up, with races and theatres and dinner-parties, and no doubt a plentiful provision of plum brandy was laid in. But there is no rest for the wicked, and more decent counsels have prevailed. The flying accident which killed the War Minister afforded an excellent excuse, and Peter is now told that he cannot come and sample Parisian potations while the Army is in mourning. If he likes to adjourn his visit until July, when no one will be in town, he may wait and see whether Providence will interpose with another pretext for proscrastinating his wanderings—at any rate until the Servians organise them for him on a permanent basis. Meanwhile we are relieved to find that Sir Edward Grey is not seeking to console the assassin with an invitation to the Coronation.

COLLARIC HUMOURS.

A Sunday paper is to be congratulated upon a revised version of the Colonial Premiers by some skilful process of reproduction. Their faces are emphasised with the marks of some hideous disease, which we hope may not be prophetic of the results of too many Imperial banquets. Indeed, in the case of Mr. Fisher and silvery Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the pictures might almost do duty for advertisements of sufferers still hesitating to embark upon a cure, their complaint so virulent that it has broken out into malignant growths upon the collars of the unfortunate statesmen. If our contemporary were not so patriotic an exponent of Imperialism, we should be almost tempted to shout "Treason!"

PHILOSOPHIC TAXATION.

A philosophical correspondent sets forth a pregnant argument. He pictures himself about to spend a sovereign on three neck-ties, when lo! the tax-gatherer comes in and appropriates the money for a widow and her three little children. The result is that a loss of gratified vanity is counterbalanced by a distribution of necessaries among more deserving persons, and the coin is no less productive from a commercial point of view. We entirely agree. But where is this process to stop? Are all luxuries to be denied so long as any distress remains unrelieved? We should not mind that if we thought it practicable. But we have a shrewd suspicion that lovers of luxury would restrict their efforts when they found their earnings were impounded—even for the most praiseworthy objects. We have to reckon with human nature.

STRAW (FLAVOURED) BERRIES.

Fruit-growers are trying to turn pennies by announcing what they call a Coronation strawberry. It is to be the biggest and brightest fruit of its kind in the market. In our innocence we should have imagined that flavour was the prime consideration, but the growers admit quite frankly that they cater for the public, which takes more thought of size and colour. Nature is quite accommodating in the matter of new varieties, but does not allow a simultaneous development of their conflicting charms, so we must decide for ourselves whether we will feast our eyes or our palates, and good gastronomers may be pardoned if they elect to give the new Coronation comestible a wide berth.

SUMPTUARY LYNCH-LAWS.

We are so often obliged to haul magistrates over the coals that we are glad to be able to pay a compliment to Mr. Mead. He expressed himself with becoming vigour about the behaviour of the hooligans who started a riot with the rumour that some ladies in the Park had actually dared to don the new skirt. As we have already pointed out, it is quite a decent and even graceful garment, and has no more to do with harems than the man in the moon. But for some unaccountable reason wilder spirits of the baser sort regard the mere rumour of it as a sufficient pretext for outrage and tumult. Anything for disorder is evidently their motto, and they take a brutal delight in harassing and insulting defenceless women, quite apart from sartorial incidents. If these ruffians were in any way representative of English manners, they would afford a fine object-lesson to our Coronation visitors, who would carry away a sadly distorted view of our civilisation. We agree with the magistrate in regretting that more exemplary punishment could not be meted out, and we hope that if there should be any repetition of such offences, public opinion will assert itself and recourse had to the cool and convenient waters of the Serpentine.

THE PEOPLE'S PAGEANT.

We are still waiting to see whether the Coronation show is to be merely a glorification of the military caste. Meanwhile, we are not greatly reassured by the statement of the Prime Minister about the Prince of Wales' investiture at Carnarvon. The late King's funeral is still too fresh in our minds for us to feel any confidence that the old mediæval spirit of martial swagger has given place to the democracy's right of recognition.

EXPENSIVE LAW AT SWANSEA.

Isn't it about time the ratepayers of Swansea put the brake on the litigious enterprise of their District Council? For years past the members seem to have had a notion that Swansea ratepayers were born in order that lawyers might wax fat. It is an expensive notion. The case of Mrs. Francis, of Loughor, is one in point. The Council ran a sewer pipe through her farm and then added insult to injury by offering her £5 for damage. She would have accepted payment on a similar basis to that made to others in the vicinity. A list of twenty local valuers was submitted to the Council, so that arrangements could be entered into for obtaining private arbitration as to the damage, but no, the Council would have nothing but an official arbitration by the Board of Trade—the decision of the arbitrator being that Mrs. Francis should be paid £36 10s. and costs, which probably will not amount to much less than £100. We are told there are several other disputes of a similar kind pending, and if the Swansea Council are going to fight all of them at this price, the ratepayers are in for a warm time of it.

FIAT EXPERIMENTUM . . .

A few days ago, some three hundred men of the Grenadier Guards "might have been seen" performing all manner of strange evolutions on the Coronation structure outside Westminster Abbey. Their business turned out to be to test the safety of the seats for the sacred persons of the fashionable spectators. No doubt a few broken legs or necks would have been considered all in the day's work for common soldiers, mere food for powder, but we submit that they do not enlist for inglorious work of this kind and might well have been consulted before they were ordered out.

"INFAMOUS CONDUCT."

The General Medical Council have seldom made themselves more trivial and absurd than in hauling up for judgment three doctors employed by Mr. Sandow to advise him as to whether his clients are in a suitable condition to undertake his exercises. If he did not advertise, the Council would have had nothing to say to them; as it is, they are charged with being "guilty of infamous conduct in a professional capacity." As one of them put it, objection might as well be taken to a medical man being a shareholder in the Army and Navy Stores because it sells Beecham's pills.

SALTER TYPEWRITERS.

Writing to a Stirling firm of booksellers, the general manager of the Salter Typewriter Company at West Bromwich "unconditionally denies" the statement of our Southampton correspondent that their London house offered to sell him machines at £10 each with 5 per cent. discount. "The list price of the Salter," he says, "is £16 16s., and 10s. extra for metal cover, from which we allow a discount of 5 per cent. for cash." There is no doubt whatever that Mr. Taylor, of Hull, did win in open competition the typewriters he advertised for £10, and perhaps our correspondent will now tell us what he has to say in reply to the Salter Company's observations on his account of the offer made to him at their office in London?

TEMPERANCE AT TILEHURST.

A Commission of the Berks and Bucks Football Association met the other evening and suspended several players of the Tilehurst (Temperance League) Club; reasons not stated in the account before us. It is significant, however, that the Commission decided to censure the club for allowing players to take part in a match while under the influence of drink, and warned them that any future conduct of the kind would be severely dealt with. It is indeed a very shocking reflection on a temperance football club that its players should be so woefully unsober. If they must take to drink, why not confine themselves to wine from the main? The least expected from a temperance football club is to be steady on its feet.

SHOULD SMALL CHILDREN BE SKINNED?

Portraits are being published of a young heroine who consented to have some of her skin taken off and applied to the wounds of a little brother who had been playing with fire. Now this was very good of her, and we have nothing but praise for pluck and self-sacrifice. But we feel rather uncomfortable about the idea of a child of ten being asked to submit herself to operations of this kind. At her age, she can scarcely be regarded as a free agent, and we should like to know precisely what pressure was brought to bear upon her. Even if she was quite a spontaneous volunteer, we think that the law for the prevention of cruelty of children ought to be capable of protecting her against herself. Little girls should not be treated like eels.

Harwich and Blazes.

If Harwich does not want to go to blazes altogether, the Town Council must make up their minds to get adequate fire appliances into the borough without any further delay and footling. They should have learned their lesson last year, but the alarming outbreak at Parsons recently, found the fire appliances as inadequate as ever. The spectacle of a messenger running off to summon the brigade of sixteen from their sixteen separate homes is surely not more ridiculous than the old pump (which, after the whole sixteen have got it working, won't throw enough water to drown a fly a few yards distant) or the hose which leaks at half a hundred separate pores. The whole thing is an utter disgrace, and, let us add, an ever-present menace.

Brum Blackmailers.

We continue to hear strange tales about the police and bookmakers of Birmingham. One is that a youth has been threatened with arrest if he ever again dares to sell a certain sporting paper in a particular spot, the reason being that he refused to inform against a street penciller. On the other hand, we hear that the bookies are protected by the police on condition that their runners are subjected to periodical fines. It is even suggested that the newsboy's friend has not yet paid his footing! 'Orrible!

Coronation Grievances.

Club servants and others have a distinct grievance about Coronation holidays. Naturally, they are not silly enough to expect to get off just when their services are most required, but they think they ought to have it made up to them afterwards. Hear, hear! Worse still, in certain works which are to be closed on three days for the "festivities," it is grimly announced that "half a day's pay will be given, as a Coronation gift," to certain favoured hands. No wonder that workers who are paid by the hour hesitate to join in the general jubilation.

A New "Landing" Stage.

Recruiting sergeants who were wont to "fish" on the pavement opposite St. Martin's Church, landed their "catch" at St. George's Barracks. That, however, is now a thing of the past, for a new "landing-stage"—as it is called—has been opened at Great Scotland Yard. We are told that it is so luxurious that it is called the "Garrison Hotel."

"Towers of Julius, London's Lasting Shame."

Why do the authorities place so many obstructions in the way of visiting the sights of London? Take the Tower, for instance. If it were a jealously-guarded fortress such as inspires spy-mania abroad, there might be some reason for concealment. But no one, not even the most extreme imperialist of the blue funk school, seriously imagines that the Germans are going to beleaguer it. Tourists and sightseers have, therefore, a grievance when they find themselves baffled at every approach. On four days in the week they are allowed to enter only on payment of a monetary charge. Even then, they are treated in a spirit of supercilious condescension, as though it were a stupendous favour to admit them at all within a circumscribed area; and on free days they are allowed only a cursory glance as they are hurried along a restricted route. Considering that the Tower is, perhaps, the most interesting and instructive of our historical treasure-houses, these limitations amount to a scandal, which will certainly be resented by the crowds of colonial visitors assembled to do honour to the Coronation. After all, it is a mistaken policy to treat everyone as a prospective hooligan; and we submit to the new Constable that a little more confidence will stimulate the best instincts of the public.

Edinburgh Public Library.

When next the Edinburgh City Council have time to look into the salaries of their lower officials, they might give attention to the Public Library, where we find among the staff considerable dissatisfaction, suppressed though it is, on the question of their salaries, and the yearly increments to which they are entitled. It may be that only some of the Library Committee are aware of this state of affairs. The matter seems to be entirely in the hands of the Chief Librarian, an official earning £800 a year, and the Convener of the Committee. Will it be believed out of Scotland—well, let us rather say, will it be believed even in Edinburgh—that there are in this institution assistants of ten years' service who are receiving the pitiful salary of £40 a year? As several unsuccessful efforts have been made to obtain publication of these facts in the Edinburgh newspapers, we think it right to state them.

Theatre Fires.

A correspondent directs our attention to the importance of having fully qualified electricians to work the electric plant used in theatrical shows. He says that in one case he knows, the man employed "could not wire properly a simple bell circuit." The point is undoubtedly an important one.

Hurrying Things Up.

Evidently the authorities have determined to get everything up-to-date during Coronation year. On May 8th one of the Manchester sitting magistrates received by post his warrant of appointment. It was dated 1891. He was, as a fact, appointed to the Bench in 1886—25 years ago—and has regularly attended the Court since that date. This almost beats the case of the old soldier who a few weeks ago received the medal which was awarded to him for service in the Crimean War.

G.P.O.

One of our readers sends us a telegram which was despatched from Victoria at 4.15 on the afternoon of Saturday, May 13th, and arrived at Chorley Wood at 1.11 on the Monday. He exclaims, "God help the wretched British public when the telephone system is taken over by the G.P.O. (God's People's Oppressors)." And so say all of us!

God and Conscription.

Judge Hans Hamilton, speaking at a meeting of the National Service League a few days ago, is reported to have said, "God had ordained that every young man up to the age of twenty should be trained, and was it not very remarkable that the Germans carried out that command to the letter?" We have heard the name of the Almighty utilised in many ways, but a Conscriptionist is, we believe, the latest—although we did once hear one of the National Service people assert that there was Universal Military Service in heaven. Perhaps, however, he was thinking of the Salvation Army.

Modern Ixions.

During the Coronation festivities it may safely be said that the old refrain, "Britons never shall be slaves," will be sung on hundreds of occasions. But we should imagine that the staff of the Golden Cross Hotel, Charing Cross, won't feel inclined to chime in, after receiving the following printed notice from the proprietors:

> Any member of the staff employed by this Company who is leaving his or her situation during the season will not receive a reference, no matter for how long he or she was in the Company's Service.
>
> (By Order) MacDonald, Sinclair & Co.
>
> *May 15th*, 1911.

Another GENERAL ELECTION?

What would our readers say if we were to predict another General Election at an early date? And if we were to hint that the rush and haste over the Insurance Bill has some reference to this contingency?

THE FATE OF THE PARLIAMENT BILL.

The latest intention of the Peers is to amend the Bill in Committee by excluding from its operation Home Rule and the Monarchy—with, perhaps, Salaries of Members of Parliament also. In any case, the Government's hope of seeing the measure passed into law before the Coronation has gone. "We told you so!"

IN HIS RIGHT PLACE!

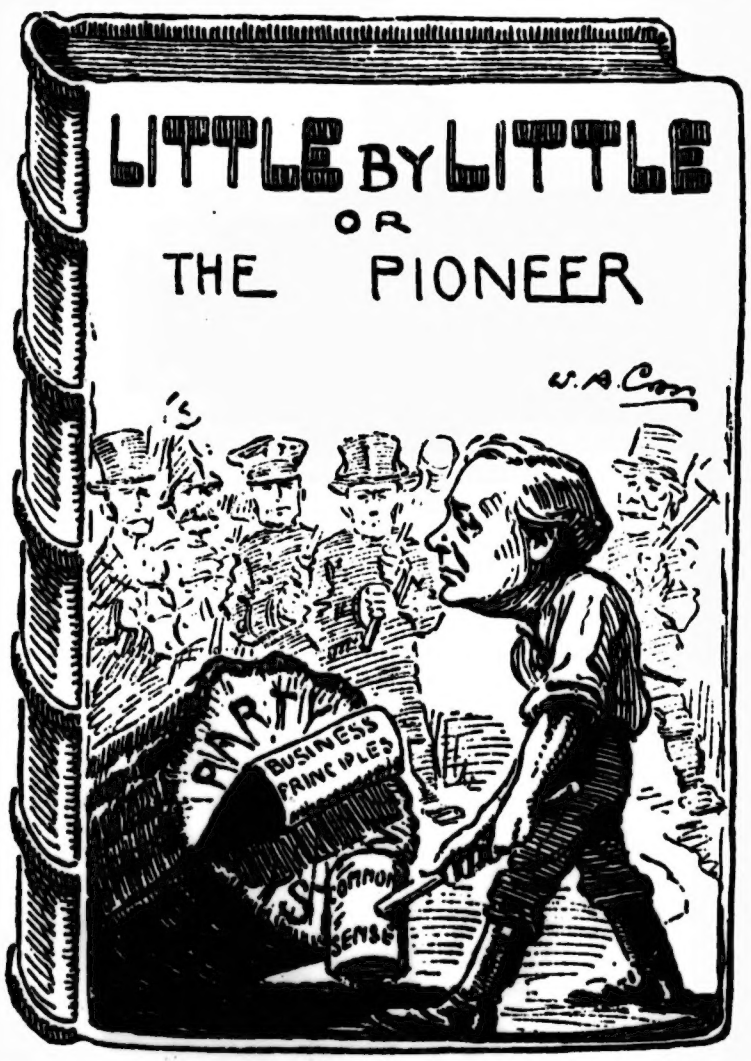
Surely it was very unkind of the *Observer*, in speaking of Mr. Balfour's presence at the Musical Congress, to say that the right hon. gentleman would undoubtedly be in "his right place." Coupled with the burlesque of the recent Political Ball, this incident will help to impress the man in the street with the solemnity of the political crisis!

CORONATION "HONOURS"!

We shall not have long to wait. The "Honours" will include the "elevation" (strange how even the most ardent Radical uses that word!) to the Peerage of two of the failures of the Government—but they will *not* include many of the noble five hundred who were to carry the Parliament Pill. Those "guarantees" have still to mature.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

A little girl, who had but imperfectly caught the name of the fashionable disease from which her parent was suffering, gravely informed an enquirer that her mother was "in bed with the ten disciples."



"JOHN BULL'S" BOOKSHELF.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

For the direction in a recipe for "Buttered Eggs," : "In a stew-pan MELT *a heaping tablespoonful of* WATER,"

THE STORY JOURNAL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its description of a local wedding that the bride "was charmingly attired in a cream silk embroidered cashmere robe, the overskirt trimmed with fringe, over an underskirt of BENZALINE, *with a magyar bodice also trimmed with* BENZALINE,"

THE EPPING GAZETTE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that an auctioneer "sold the freehold dwelling-house AND MISS TEMPLE (*the occupants*) *for £500,"*

THE DAILY MAIL (HULL)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "King Manoel was HELD UP BY A POLICEMAN *at Blackfriars Bridge the other night,"*

THE EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its description of the flood at North Tyne Town: "The homes of several people standing in apparent security some ten yards from the burn's edge, have been, in some cases ABSOLUTELY, *in other cases* PARTIALLY, *and* IN EVERY CASE ABSOLUTELY, *demolished,"*

THE EVENING MAIL (Newcastle-on-Tyne)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Hampshire Chronicle," as an attraction at a fête in Stratton Park: "Shooting Competitions FOR PIGS,"

THE WOMEN'S UNIONIST AND TARIFF REFORM ASSOCIATION
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, according to the "Daily Telegraph," in a hypothetical case regarding the Insurance Bill: "'A' has £190 a year, and wife and two children. 'B' has £160 a year and is SINGLE. *According to Mr. Lloyd George's scheme it would appear that 'B' pays income tax on £10 (*HIS TWO CHILDREN *giving him exemption on £20),"*

MR. A. BENJAMIN
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in its account of the opening of the Festival of Empire, that "their Majesties, the Queen holding a lovely bunch of carnations, kept BLOWING, *while the audience cheered and cheered again,"*

THE LEWISHAM BOROUGH NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its description of a thunderstorm: "Peals of thunder, which were FOLLOWED *by flashes of lightning, rent the air,"*

THE IRISH TIMES
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating that "*AFTER *exhausting the charms of Windermere (an* IMPOSSIBLE *feat), the Ferry and a few miles of winding road reveal the beauties of Coniston Water,"*

THE DAILY MIRROR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in its account of a recent divorce case: "The pursuer, FIFTY-THREE YEARS OF AGE, *said that he was married to the defender in December, 1877. He was a widower, and was* TWENTY YEARS *older than the defender,"*

THE SCOTSMAN
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For placing under the heading of "*MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS," *the following advertisement:* "VIOLAS.—*Mrs. Chichester, Jas. Pilling, A. Noble, and other best varieties. Several Thousand for Immediate Disposal,"*

THE STAFFORDSHIRE SENTINEL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

OUR "PRUDENTIAL" EXPOSURE.

THE BOMBSHELL ABOUT TO BURST.—SACKLOADS OF CLAIMS.—PROBABLE ISSUE OF SEVERAL THOUSAND WRITS.—RUMOURED GOVERNMENT ACTION.

Matters are moving quickly now. We have been busily engaged during the past week discussing with experienced counsel the *modus operandi* for compelling the Prudential Company to disgorge the premiums it has received in respect of illegal policies, and next week we hope to be in a position to announce a definite course of action.

In the meantime, every post brings us shoals of letters conveying statements of fact throwing grave suspicion upon the validity of thousands of policies issued by the Company. These are all being carefully sifted and collated, and every case will be considered on its own merits, with a view to being put in order prior to the commencement of the necessary legal proceedings.

THE COMPANY'S ALARM.

Meanwhile, the directors are driven to their wits' ends to know how to deal with the new situation. They realise that no subsidised or inspired press campaign can be of the slightest use in dealing with a duly formulated legal action. And with recent judicial decisions in their minds, they are trembling at the consequences of adverse verdicts upon the thousands of claims about to be launched against them. They recognise that the whole modern system of industrial assurance is about to be put on its trial—just as the Bankers of the United Kingdom know that *their* ill-gotten gains will soon have to be restored to their rightful owners, or handed over to the State.

PROBABLE GOVERNMENT ACTION.

As we have previously announced, all our allegations have been placed before the Government, and we are in a position to state that our articles are receiving attention at the hands of the Chancellor of the Exchequer—upon whom strong pressure will be brought to include industrial assurance within the scope of his Bill.

PROPOSED MASS MEETING OF POLICY HOLDERS.

Arrangements are in hand for organising a great mass meeting of policy holders—most probably at the Albert Hall. In the meantime other meetings are about to be held in all parts of the country, and an out-door campaign is also being arranged for the summer months.

OUR PAMPHLET DISTRIBUTION.

An epitome of our charges against the Company is being printed in pamphlet form, and will very shortly be ready for circulation. It is our intention to distribute it in every town and village throughout the Kingdom; and it will act as a handbook to policy holders—containing full directions how to proceed to enforce their rights.

MORE SUICIDES.

Following the suicides of the two agents referred to in our last issue, we observe, with regret, still another—this time, however, of a clerk in the office and not an agent. Since the name of this journal was mentioned at the inquest, and a copy of it was found near the unfortunate man's body, we are glad to have the authority of his sister for the statement that the unfortunate man had told her he quite understood that our articles in no way referred to the inner staff. We are equally glad to hear that he had no complaint against the company, so far as its treatment of him was concerned.

AN AGENT'S TRIBUTE.

From a Provincial agent:—

> Your magnificent articles have been an inspiration to me, and I feel that we agents owe you a debt of gratitude for your whole-hearted avowal of our cause. I am not a dismissed, nor a disgraced, nor a disappointed agent, but I know the Company by their cruel "Debit System" has shamefully wronged me and my wife and family.

We commend this letter to the attention of those agents who think that our exposures are calculated to injure them in their work. Our desire is to make their position more tenable, and we believe that in the end they will all realise that in the course we are adopting we are acting as their best friends.

PLUNDERING THE POOR.

A correspondent writes:—

"I am glad you have exposed the grossest fraud ever devised for plundering the poor. It is over thirty years since I had my first experience of the shifty methods of the Prudential. I was connected with a Bradford firm employing about 400 workpeople, and amongst the labourers was an Irishman whose wages were, I think, about 22s. per week. Out of this sum he kept a wife, several children, and his aged mother, and for several years had paid some pence weekly to the Prudential Company in order to be sure of having enough money at her death to bury his poor old mother decently. She did not know her actual age because no registers of birth were kept in the remote Connemara village where she was born, but from various occurrences, such as the famine years, her age was fairly arrived at and the policy prepared accordingly. For several years he paid the premiums until his mother died, and he applied for the insurance money. He was illiterate (could barely read, and could not write) and was just the sort of person out of whose hard-earned money the Prudential have piled up their 70 millions or so of plunder from lapsed policies and repudiated claims. The Prudential first demanded to see his mother's birth certificate, alleging that there was a false declaration of age—a regular trick of theirs, as I was told, in those days. Of course, this could not be produced, and their next move was to allege fraudulent misrepresentation which justified them not only in refusing to pay anything, but if they wished to be hard, to prosecute the applicant for attempting to obtain money by false pretences. Finally, they magnanimously offered the poor man, as an act of grace and charity, half the sum his mother was insured for. One of the workers told him to consult me, and he did so. I was at the time young, enthusiastic, a hater of shams and injustice. Mazzini and Voltaire were my idols, and I wrote occasional notes, etc., for the leading local paper. The contemptible nature of the fraud set me ablaze with indignation, and I hastened to see the editor-in-chief, to whom I explained the circumstances, and secured his ready permission to write on the editorial office paper a letter expressing my amazement, demanding an adequate and full explanation and justice to the poor man. By return there came a letter of abject apology, 'the whole thing was a mistake,' etc., and the insolent collector came cringing to pay the poor wretch his money, of which, without my intervention, he would have been defrauded. If I were to live to be a hundred years of age, I could not forget that poor man's gratitude as he pressed upon me a bottle of Coleraine whiskey and a packet of cigars, which I did not want, but could not wound his generous heart by refusing to accept. That is thirty-one or two years ago, but it filled me with a contempt for the Prudential sharks that is ineradicable, and I am glad you have determined to slay the foul giant of fraud, for I know every brick in the Holborn Bars building is cemented to its neighbouring brick by the tears, misery, and plunder of the poor, the thrifty, the widow and the orphan. I admire your courage, JOHN, and I have no fear of the result, even although they have seventy or more millions at their back. Truth, public well-being, and protection from fraud must prevail, and you have every honest man's good wishes in your onslaught on an infamy that you alone have had the courage to challenge to a duel *à outrance*."

THE TALLYMAN.

HOW THE HOMES OF RESPECTABLE WORKING-MEN ARE RUINED.

Those who have studied the condition of the poor question know that in some districts, more especially in the north, the tallyman sometimes exercises a sinister influence over the household. Shirking the husband, he persuades the wife to buy things from him at an exorbitant price, and when the times for payment come she has to resort to all sorts of devices to satisfy the demands and to keep her indebtedness from the knowledge of her husband. Various suggestions have been made to Royal Commissions and other bodies for the purpose of getting rid of the tallyman; but he remains as ubiquitous and mischievous as ever. A Plymouth man writes:—

> Some seven years ago my wife started having goods from a tallyman on credit. This was unknown to me. She had no necessity to take credit, as she had my wages every week, which were sufficient for her to buy all necessaries. The tallyman must have called at my home dozens of times, but he so happened to make his calls when I was not at home. He simply ignored me, and never thought proper to let me know anything about his dealings with my wife until he found he could get no more money from her. Then he wrote me a letter, saying: "In June last I obtained a judgment summons against you at the Stonehouse County Court, and an order of 4s. per month was made. Only one instalment has been paid. I then took out an execution and put the bailiffs in, but kindness permitted me to withdraw them. Your wife has since paid me several amounts, and the balance now owing is 39s. I shall be glad to hear from you regarding this. Will you call or write?" I replied to this man's letter, saying I had no knowledge of him, or of his secret dealings with my wife, and that I should ignore the debt and refuse to pay it. His next move was a judgment summons. I attended before the Judge, and I declared on my oath to the Judge that I had never seen this man before I met him in Court in the Judge's presence and that he had no authority from me, nor had she any cause to go to this man for things on credit, as she always had my earnings, which were quite sufficient for her to buy all necessaries with.
>
> Nevertheless the Judge confirmed the order, and with it an order for imprisonment for 21 days. The tallyman took out the warrant for my arrest.
>
> The Court officials came to my home and arrested me, and then to save me from being sent to prison a friend of mine paid the money.
>
> Now, sir, can I maintain an action against this man for the injury he has done me, because he must have wilfully and maliciously perjured to have got the machinery of the County Court to assist him to deal with me as he has done, namely, caused my name to be called at the County Court, distrained on my home, and then caused a warrant to be issued for my arrest, and thereby punishing me for his illegal dealings with my wife?

We are afraid our correspondent has no remedy, but his letter brings into sharp relief the position of hundreds and thousands of workmen who are victimised by tallymen.

"YOUNG EGYPT IN ENGLAND."

NATIVE STUDENTS AND THE PAYMENT OF THEIR DEBTS.

With reference to the article on this subject which appeared in our issue of May 13th, the President of the Egyptian Society at Oxford writes to us to say that the Society has been in existence now for four years, and during that period no more than three Egyptians have to his knowledge incurred debts which they were unable to pay, among them being the person to whom we referred. "It is unjust," writes M. El Abd, "to the other Egyptians who have not committed such an action that they should be on the same level as the other three. One cannot fail but infer from the title of your article that the Egyptians on the whole are behaving in the same manner, and therefore we should have been glad if you could have headed your article otherwise. The case was against one which unfortunately was true, but the heading was applied for Egyptians on the whole."

We have also received a visit from Mr. Medawar, who was the victim of the young man we exposed, and he agrees with the President that our reference to the young Egyptians who are sent over here to study was too sweeping. It is generous on his part to say so, but we are bound to add that our statement as to the conduct of these young men does not rest on his authority alone.

A THRIFTY CLUB.

DON'T "GO WEST, YOUNG MAN," IN SEARCH OF A JOB!

Recently there appeared in the *Western Morning News* the following "Wanted" advertisement:—

> In about a month, caretaker for Liskeard Constitutional Club. Whole time; live out.

A correspondent applied for the post, and in return he received the following statement as to the duties and emoluments:—

> Hours from 8.30 o'clock in the morning until 10.30 o'clock in the evening, one hour allowed for dinner, and one hour for tea.
>
> No cottage is provided, but there is a kitchen on the premises which can be used by the caretaker during the daytime.
>
> The reading-room to be cleaned, fire lit when necessary, and papers placed in position and the room ready for use by members by 9 o'clock in the morning.
>
> The billiard room to be cleaned, fire lit when necessary, tables brushed and ironed, and everything put in order for use of the members by 10 o'clock in the morning.
>
> The other rooms on the premises to be kept clean and in order at all times.
>
> To mark billiards when required by any member.
>
> To see that the rules of the club are duly observed by all members.
>
> To generally perform the various duties of a caretaker to the satisfaction of the committee and to carry out the orders that may be made by them at any time.
>
> WAGES THIRTEEN SHILLINGS PER WEEK.

They seem to like a lot for their money in Cornwall.

LAWRENCE BROS., LIMITED.

A "ONE-MAN" PRELIMINARY FEE CONCERN.

Our attention has again been directed to this firm, whose address is Bank Chambers, 124, Chancery Lane. A correspondent was in communication with them as to their obtaining from a client £250 which was to be lent at five per cent. interest. Having induced our correspondent to pay a preliminary fee of £2 2s., and subsequently £6 6s. for fees and expenses, they wrote to him on the 3rd of April last:—"We have your letter *re* matter in hand, and will advise you to-morrow if the matter can then be settled." This is the last communication our correspondent has had from them.

We find from Somerset House that Lawrence Bros., Ltd., is a "one man" concern, registered in March, 1910, with a nominal capital of £1,000, Chas. James Lawrence being the Managing Director. The only shareholders would appear to be the above-named C. J. Lawrence (who is described as a surveyor), Albert James Wright, of 87, Oxford Road, Gunnersbury, Acton, and Frederick B. Hindmarsh, of 27, Kingsley Road, Wimbledon, a private in the Royal Garrison Artillery, each of whom holds one share. Five days after registration of the Company a mortgage debenture for £100 was registered as a charge "upon all the Company's property, present and future."

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE.

["*When some Russian prisoners paid no attention to the order of a sentry to stop singing, the sentry fired into the cell and killed one of them on the spot.*]

When Howler sings—his next-door flat
Is just above the entry—
There are some moments when I'd like
To be a Russian sentry.

"FOR THIS RELIEF——"

["*The relief column entered Fez without firing a shot. . . . All the Europeans are safe and great enthusiasm prevails.*"—Daily Paper.]

"Relief of Fez!" the papers cry,
And in our ears they din it;
Yet its relief was nothing to
That of the people in it.

RICARDO.

For pictorial descriptions of all the Sports of the Week, see *LOTINGA'S WEEKLY.*

THE LAW GUARANTEE AND TRUST SCANDAL.

AWAITING THE OPINION OF THE LAW OFFICERS—PUBLIC IMPATIENCE AT DELAY.

In our last issue we reproduced the answer given by the President of the Board of Trade to a question by Mr. Bottomley, to the effect that the facts revealed in the recent libel action brought by Mr. F. J. Ronald against us were being placed before the Law Officers of the Crown, for advice as to whether they justified the necessary steps being taken to bring about a compulsory winding-up of the Society, and a full public investigation into its affairs. We have accordingly placed at the disposal of the Law Officers a full report of the proceedings, and we now await with interest the advice which they may tender to Mr. Buxton.

Let it be clearly understood that, assuming the facts to justify such a course, there is no difficulty in the way of the Official Receiver of the Board of Trade presenting a Petition for compulsory liquidation and afterwards obtaining the necessary Order for the Public Examination of the Directors and officers of the Company. The opinion so frequently expressed by Mr. Buxton that the Court would not make such an Order unless it could be shown that the voluntary liquidation was not being carried out satisfactorily, is quite erroneous. As we pointed out in July last year in a special article by an eminent Chancery barrister, the Official Receiver has only to allege that in his opinion the voluntary winding-up cannot be continued with due regard to the interests of the creditors or shareholders, and that nothing but a Public Examination (which cannot be obtained in a voluntary liquidation) will get at the truth, and there is no doubt whatever that, provided such opinion were fortified by a strong *prima facie* case, the Court would make the necessary Winding-up Order.

Were the Shareholders Hoodwinked?

There is a special reason why, in this particular instance, the Court *should* make the Order. It will be remembered that when the shareholders were considering the question of voluntary, as distinguished from compulsory, liquidation, great influence was brought to bear upon them by the principal shareholders in favour of the former course, and a circular signed by holders of upwards of a quarter of a million of ordinary share capital was issued with this object in view. The first two signatures to the circular were those of the Lord Chief Justice of England and Mr. Justice Grantham, and, naturally, great weight was attached to their opinion. Let us, then, quote a sentence from the circular: "The course which we recommend (voluntary liquidation) will not preclude an investigation into the past management of the Society, which we all feel to be absolutely necessary." Then, at the meeting at which the voluntary liquidation was decided upon, Sir Edward Clarke, a heavy loser by the failure, made this extraordinary statement: "There is an impression abroad that in a compulsory liquidation something in the way of a Public Examination is possible, which would be desirable in regard to the history and transactions of this Society; but the fact is that there is no more real power in the Court under a compulsory liquidation than under voluntary liquidation."

There can be no doubt that these declarations lulled the majority of the shareholders into a sense of security. Not being lawyers, they did not realise that without compulsory liquidation it is impossible to obtain the Public Examination of directors and others—and to be now told that the Court will not interfere so long as the voluntary liquidation is proceeding satisfactorily, is as exasperating as it is ludicrous.

Since the liquidation commenced, Lord Alverstone has reiterated his opinion that there ought to be a full and searching investigation into the affairs of the Company, and it has further been stated by Mr. Sam Bircham, who is a shareholders' member of the Committee of Inspection, that the Committee has reported in favour of a full investigation, and it is understood that such report will shortly be published.

Formulating the Charges.

We have before us a copy of the correspondence which has passed between one of the shareholders and the Winding-up Department of the Board of Trade, and we find the following specific allegations made by this shareholder:—(1) Inaccurate balance sheets, (2) payment of dividends out of capital, (3) clandestine transfer of some of the Company's property, and (4) illicit profits on the part of some of the officers. Let it be clearly understood that we make no such allegation against any particular director. For aught we know, every member of the Board may have been in blissful ignorance of what was going on. Our allegations we have already specified; they are based upon the evidence established in the recent libel action. And we are not entitled to say more at present than that they seriously implicate the General Manager, Mr. T. R. Ronald, and his son, the Valuer, Mr. F. J. Ronald.

Public Impatience.

Whilst the President of the Board of Trade is fortifying himself with further legal advice, the public is growing extremely impatient. Every day brings us indignant protests against official inaction—the general view being that if the authorities had paid half as much attention to this great Corporation as they bestowed upon the Charing Cross Bank, a full investigation would long ere this have taken place, and it is not too much to say that every respectable City man, and every member of the legal and surveying professions, is now looking to Sir Rufus Isaacs and Sir John Simon to lift aside the veil which has so long concealed the true facts relating to this scandalously mismanaged concern.

Here is a list of the principal shareholders. Every reader of this journal should write to such of them as he may in any way know, urging the importance of supporting our demand for investigation.

Alverstone, Lord (Rt. Hon.), Hornton Lodge, Pitt St., Kensington	2,000
Baldwin, Edward T., 13, King's Bench Walk, Temple, E.C.	1,750
Bird, Arthur, The Grange, Gt. Bookham, Surrey	1,000
Bowman, Sir William P., Corporation Ho., 2, Bloomsbury Pl., W.C.	1,000
Barnard, William T., 13, King's Bench Walk, Temple, E.C.	1,000
Beauchamp, Rt. Hon. Wm. (Earl of), Madresfield Ct., Malvern Link	2,000
Buchan, Hepburn, Sir Archibald, Prestonkirk, N.B.	1,000
Chambers, Thos. W., Field House, Brighouse, Yorks	1,300
Clark, Revd. John M., Arborfield, Weybridge	1,000
Clarke (K.C.), Sir Edwd., Thorncote, Staines	1,000
Coleridge, Lord, 3, King's-Bench Walk, Temple, E.C.	690
Fawcett, John, 64, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.	1,195
Felton, William, Sandgate, Pulborough, Sussex	1,900
Goffey, Thomas Amalfi, Blundellsands	1,000
Grantham, Rt. Hon. Sir William, 100, Eaton Square, S.W.	3,000
Green, William, 34, Richmond Rd. Mns., S.W.	1,600
Helyar, Francis J., 11, Royal Crescent, Bath	1,000
Hutchinson, Alfred M., 59, Burlington St., Liverpool	1,000
Henderson, John M. (M.P.), 2, Moorgate Street Buildings, E.C.	400
Hunter, John, 7, Louisa Terrace, Exmouth	1,000
Hill, Sir J. J., 10, Water Street, Liverpool	2,350
Hill, Sir J. J., Mere Hall, Birkenhead	3,850
Hales, Henry, Elmwood, Kenley, Surrey	1,800
Matthey, George, 78, Hatton Garden, E.C.	2,000
Page, Junr., Wm. T., The Longdales, Greetwell Rd., Lincoln	1,480
Phipps, A. E., 3, Mercer's Row, Northampton	1,400
Rawcliffe, Chas. A., The Gables, Blundellsands	1,000
Single, Fredk., Fernside, Princes Rd., Wimbledon Common, S.W.	2,115
Sheppee, Col. Francis F., Holly Spring, Bracknell, Berks	2,000
Scarborough, Reginald J., Colyford, Devon	1,010
Taylor, Richd. S., 4, Field Court, Gray's Inn, W.C.	1,200
Weston, George, 9, Gray's Inn Square, W.C.	1,000
White, Lloyd T., 3, King's Bench Walk, Inner Temple, E.C.	1,000
Walker, George A., Union Bank Chas., 61, Carey St., W.C.	2,110
Willock, Charles J. 1, Dr. Johnson's Bldgs., Temple, E.C.	1,000

THE LIBERTY OF THE SUBJECT.

LEGALISED KIDNAPPING AT HIGHGATE.

So long as the Lunacy Law remains in its present form, no man or woman throughout the land is safe from arrest. We have frequently drawn attention to this fact. Moreover, we have quoted specific cases. Here is another outrage—legal outrage—on an old woman. On March 8th last, a Miss Claxton, of Shaftesbury Road, Crouch Hill, made an application to a Highgate magistrate, in a matter concerning her landlord. While in the witness-box she was told to stand down. She did as directed. Then she was ordered to go into the waiting-room. The time was about noon. At 4 o'clock she asked for some refreshment, but none was given her. She then pulled out her purse and offered to pay for a cup of tea and some bread and butter. Instead of giving her the tea, the police took her purse. At 6 o'clock she was ordered into a motor ambulance. She, quite naturally, asked the reason. Then, and not till then, was she told that they were going to take her to a doctor, who would examine her as to her sanity. She protested, but seeing that force was at hand, she acted wisely and went quietly. She was driven to the Edmonton Union. Here she was made to strip and get into bed. At 10 o'clock the same night she saw a medical officer. What his report was we don't know. However, Miss Claxton was detained in the Union for ten days. One cruel feature of the business is that when this poor old lady was released, her purse, which contained 5s. 11d., was not returned to her. She did not get it back until a month after, and then only upon applying in writing.

Such are the bare facts, which we stigmatise as brutal. Here is a poor old woman, earning her living by sewing. She has, or imagines she has, a grievance against her landlord. She makes an application to a magistrate—in itself quite a sane act. Assuming the magistrate had good grounds for suspecting Miss Claxton to be insane, is that any reason for detaining a respectable woman in a police station for six hours, then bundling her into an ambulance, before a gaping crowd, ordering her to strip, placing her into bed, and not medically examining her until ten hours after her arrest? Then what about her detention for ten days? Do the authorities claim to have cured a mad woman in that short space of time? And what of the old lady now? She finds herself unable to get employment. She is branded, and has no legal redress. And all this took place—not in Russia, but in England, "The Land of the Free."

"AN OBJECTIONABLE CIRCULAR."

THE ORGANISER EXONERATES MR. SMITH.

Mr. Edward Smith, of Grainger Smith, Ltd., of Dudley, writes us, with reference to this matter, that he was invited to head the subscription list. He declined, but said as it was a matter which concerned the young men, he would put up a sovereign for every sovereign collected from either the staff or co-directors of his firm. The energetic organiser asked for an introduction to the men, so a meeting was called. At the meeting Mr. Smith says he asked for a show of hands in sympathy with the undertaking. He was surprised at the show of hands and repeated his promise. All he told the organiser was to inform him as to the amount received and promised, and he would contribute a like amount. The organiser misunderstood him, and in his zeal to let him in for as much as possible, issued the circular without his consent.

Mr. Johnson, the organiser, writes confirming this, and adds: "I put the unfortunate phrase into the circular with the idea that Mr. Smith would require some evidence of the amount subscribed, and not with any intention of bringing pressure to bear upon the staff. I never submitted the circular to Mr. Smith before sending it out."

We have much pleasure in publishing Mr. Johnson's explanation, which quite exonerates Mr. Smith from any reflections the sequence of facts may have cast upon him.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.

THE ISLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL.

PRECIOUS LITTLE FOR £4 7s.

A firm of valuers applied to the Clerk of the Islington Borough Council, asking him to let them know the rateable value of twelve houses, whether any notices under the Public Health Act had been served on the properties, and, if so, whether the work had been completed to the satisfaction of the Council. It was not possible for the valuers to get the particulars otherwise, but they received a letter from the Town Clerk informing them that if they wanted then there would be a charge of £4 7s., and the Council would not be responsible for the accuracy of the information. Our correspondents say they have never had a charge of the kind made upon them before.

AT IT AGAIN!

A MATTER FOR MR. BURNS.

A correspondent tells us that, in accordance with the invitation inserted by the Urban District Council of Carlton, Nottingham, he applied for the position of Inspector of Nuisances. The closing day was May 24th, and on the 19th our correspondent received a letter from the Town Clerk of the Council, which runs as follows:—"I regret to have to inform you that the advertisement with reference to the appointment of an Inspector of Nuisances was inserted solely in compliance with the regulations of the Local Government Board, and was not, in any way, intended as an invitation for applicants for such a position." Surely that was not the meaning of the Local Government Board when it insisted that such advertisements should be published.

PARTY GOVERNMENT.

SOME APT QUOTATIONS.

"The party-man becomes a liar by necessity."—NIETZSCHE (Aphorisms).

"Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few."—POPE.

"With us, government without party can alone succeed."—BISMARCK (Reichstag, June 12th, 1882).

"It is the nature of parties to retain their original enmities far more firmly than their original principles."—MACAULAY.

"He knows very little of mankind who expects, by facts or reasoning, to convince a determined party-man."—LAVATER.

"The tendency of party spirit has ever been to disguise and propagate and support error."—WHATELY.

"The effect of violent animosities between parties has always been an indifference to the general welfare and honour of the state."—MACAULAY.

"Men only associate in parties by sacrificing their opinions, or by having none worth sacrificing; and the effect of party government is always to develop hostilities and hypocrisies, and to extinguish ideas."—RUSKIN.

"He that aspires to be the head of a party will find it more difficult to please his friends than to perplex his foes. He must often act from false reasons, which are weak, because he dare not avow the true reasons, which are strong."—COLTON.

"Damn your principles! Stick to your party."—BEACONSFIELD's reply to Bulwer Lytton, who had said he could not vote for a certain measure before Parliament as it was against his principles.

THE QUEEN VICTORIA MEMORIAL.

Referring to our remarks on the employment of foreigners upon this memorial, a correspondent writes to us to say that he is a sculptor of many years' experience, and has found it almost impossible to get work. He asks if Sir T. Brock was so inadequately paid that he was compelled to employ Italian carvers. He writes, "Many other English carvers besides myself were walking about looking for work while these foreigners were working on the Memorial, and it is a disgrace to this country that such conditions are allowed to exist."

TWO VIEWS ON PAYMENT OF MEMBERS.

HONOURABLE HIRELINGS.

By a Democrat.

At the first blush it sounds a strange form of economy to force salaries upon people who are only too anxious to offer their services free, even to lavish small fortunes in the nutrition of constituencies.

Stage Thunderers.

But a little reflection should convince most of us that the non-payment of members is responsible for many abuses. When a man works for nothing, he gives himself airs, becomes unduly independent of his employers, and is more likely to yield to temptations of self-aggrandisement. In fact, the voluntary system is largely responsible for the present tendency to treat politics as a game in which the sweets of office figure as stakes. When you see apparently sober statesmen, the pretended protagonists of great causes which involve the destinies of millions, one moment denouncing their opponents as faithless rogues, traitors and fools, the next minute playing golf, cracking bottles, frequenting country houses in each other's company, it is difficult to take them very seriously.

Many of them regard the whole business as a bore. They tell you quite frankly that they have only gone into the House to please the pigs or their parents, because it is expected of their position, because the wife wants to go to Lady So-and-So's parties. They take no interest in public affairs, debates weary them to extinction, and they only turn up to vote when the Whip cracks very loudly.

Politics as a Profession.

Whether forcing a salary upon the representatives of the people will effect an immediate change is a doubtful question. You may say that politics may become more professional. Yes, but therefore at the same time more expert. Already some jester is proclaiming that we shall now know what to do with our boys.

Instead of sending them to wait hungrily for briefs at the Bar, or training them to torture guinea-pigs in laboratories, or paying them to profess a saintliness which is not always inseparable from black coats, we shall have to bring them up to politics with the prospect of a livelihood immediately they have cozened a constituency.

Night-Schools for Statesmen.

I confess that I am very curious to see the syllabus of the curriculum. There will naturally be a course of law, for at present scarcely a single member knows how to draft a Bill or foresee the consequences of an enactment. There ought to be a few lessons in elocution, for the average orator stutters and mumbles and interlards his periods with hee-haws.

There might also be occasional instruction in the rudiments of history and geography and arithmetic. A certain ex-Cabinet Minister, who has now retired to the gilded chamber after a successful career, had been a long time in office before he discovered that Charles I. was not put to death on the 30th of December; we have all read about a Prime Minister's incredulity when told that Cape Breton was an island; and we can still smile over the Chancellor of the Exchequer who, when confronted with decimals, protested impatiently against the mystery of "those damned dots."

Something might also be urged in favour of foreign languages and foreign politics. A certain Foreign Secretary's misunderstandings have been largely attributed to his ignorance of French, and I am willing to wager that not one per cent. of the present House of Commons could tell you off-hand even the names of the Prime Ministers of Europe.

But the class which I should most enjoy attending as a spectator would be that in political tact and the artistic way of wooing electors. When I feel in a thoroughly mischievous mood, I shall prepare a typical lecture on the subject, devoting special attention to the time for subserviency and the time to refrain from subserviency, the uses and dangers of unscrupulousness, the philosophy of facing both ways. Having been a candidate myself, I feel sure that I could speak with some authority.

MERCENARY MEMBERS.

By a Tory.

It has hitherto been our proud boast that all the best work in this country has been done for the love of the thing. Now all this is to be changed, and we are to be placed at the mercy of gangs of hungry mercenaries who will take to politics for what they hope to obtain.

It is all very well to argue that deputies are salaried in every other constitutional country in the world. Very likely they are, but they do not command the same respect, or, indeed, any respect at all. And why should the Mother of Parliaments take to imitating the venality of her supposititious offspring?

Bribery and Blacklegs.

It seems to me indecent, if not absolutely unconstitutional, for the House of Commons to vote itself salaries, for a Government to prolong its tenure by means of bribery which has not been specifically authorised by the nation.

If this precedent be tolerated, any Government will have simple machinery ready to hand for the manufacture of majorities. Hitherto when an able man has been led by disappointment to assume the rôle of candid friend to a Government, the plan has been to muzzle him with office. Now the same method is applied to whole groups.

A section of the House, and that by no means the least able or patriotic, is more immediately affected by considerations of pounds, shillings and pence. £400 a year is nothing to a City shark or feudal tyrant, but it means all the difference between comfort and penury to others. The Labour member is, of course, worthy of his hire, but he ought not to be put under an obligation to a political party for receiving it. Moreover, he will still occupy an invidious position which it is not fair to force upon him. You may say that the money will be distributed equally to all, quite apart from their necessities. Yes, but that is merely the theory of the matter.

Fines for Independence.

Moreover, when a Government feels shaky, it will always to able to curry favour in the House, though not in the country by appealing to impecunious members by increasing salaries. It will be possible not only to win men with screws but to put on the screw—a "supporter" who ceases to support his party may be punished by the withholding of his supplies. The argument, of course, would be that, having ceased to vote for the ticket on which he was elected, he had also ceased to represent his constituency and therefore no longer deserved to be paid.

I do not believe that any Government would dare to go to this length, but it would not surprise me to find a man mulcted if he happened to express very unpopular opinions. Mr. Ginnell might just manage to escape this form of censure, but I am not at all happy as to what would happen in the case of another Colonel Lynch, who was accused of helping the enemies of his country. Or if I supported a republican agitation I might be docked on the plea that I had violated my oath of allegiance. Very likely you would think that this served me right, but I submit that independence is already discouraged quite enough without a system of fines and pecuniary penalties being directed against representative opinions.

If politics are to be made easy for the hand-to-mouth brigade, it will not suffice to dole out £400 a year. The money must be protected against seizure for debt, thus reviving an old privilege of Parliament in an up-to-date form. There should also be a power of anticipation. If an impoverished colonel can commute his half-pay, why should not a hungry member sell his salary as well as his soul? We must have a generous interpretation of the revised version of the phrase: Going into the House! It is at least appropriate that the dissolution of the Union with Ireland should be heralded by the establishment of a glorified Union at Westminster.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii OF COVER.

THE POST OFFICE HOME SAFES CONTRACT.

IS IT A JOB?

On Thursday, May 18th, Captain Newman, the Unionist member for Enfield, called the attention of the Postmaster-General to certain matters connected with the new Home Safes, one of the latest devices of our paternal Government for the purpose of making us all thrifty and good. Our readers, or some of them, probably know that the Postmaster-General has been persuaded to take up a scheme which certain gentlemen have been pressing upon his Department for the last five years, and which will give to every person who applies for it, and is willing to pay 2s. (to be refunded later), a box into which the householder will drop his odd coppers and silver, and which will only be unlockable by the Post Office authorities. In order to put this scheme into operation it was necessary to get the boxes, and in order to get boxes the Government invited firms to tender, with the result that the tender of C. O. Burns, of New York, was accepted. The number of boxes to be manufactured was originally put at 5,000.

Now we should like to know why it was that C. O. Burns's tender was accepted. C. O. Burns had carried on business in New York, and soon after securing this contract his company became bankrupt. Investigations are now being made in New York as to the circumstances which led to the bankruptcy. Our information is that at the date when the Postmaster-General accepted the tender, it was already in liquidation. If that is a fact, the acceptance needs explanation.

But there is much more that requires explanation in this matter. C. O. Burns represented to the Postmaster-General that it would not be worth while for his, or any other, firm to put up the necessary plant in England for the manufacture of 5,000 boxes. Accordingly the Postmaster-General increased the order to 100,000. But, of course, the price that might have been fair for an order of 5,000 might well be excessive when the order was increased to 100,000, and so C. O. Burns put in a lower tender, which was accepted. But the curious thing is that other tenders were not invited on the second occasion. The Bankers' Service Corporation, a company which has for years been urging the Postmaster-General to use these boxes, and had, therefore, a certain claim to special consideration, heard of the revised order and put in a tender at 1s. 8d. per box. On March 28th the Corporation received a letter from the Postmaster-General stating that he did not propose to invite further tenders. The offer of C. O. Burns was accepted, although it was at 1s. 10½d.

But C. O. Burns was not in a position to carry out this 100,000 order, and so he got into communication with Mr. Debenham, of Messrs. Debenham and Freebody, with the object of being financed by him, and Mr. Debenham, in turn, got into communication with Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, who, as everybody knows, is Chairman of Kynoch's.

Meantime, C. O. Burns had formed himself into a Company to be known as Fiscus, Limited, and the manufacture of the boxes was transferred to this concern. Replying to Captain Newman, the Postmaster-General said he had no reason to suppose that this Company "cannot carry out the contract," but if he had instructed one of his subordinates to go to Somerset House he would have found that the Company had a subscribed capital of £2.

Fiscus, Limited, handed the contract over to Kynoch's, who are likely to make a very fair thing out of it. In the United States the manufacture of these boxes costs 10d.; in this country they ought to be made for less. Kynoch's charge 1s. 5d. Add to the 10d. 5 per cent. for packing and delivery, and the profit remaining is something like 6d., which on a 100,000 order means £2,500. Fiscus, Limited, too, has a profit. They get the boxes at 1s. 5d. and sell to the Government at 1s. 10½d.; which means another profit not much less than of Kynoch's.

Kynoch's, had, by the way, already provided themselves with the special tools for carrying out this order. It is, we believe, the intention of the Post Office to order a large number of additional safes. The estimate of the total requirements of the Post Office is about two millions. We presume there will be further tenders when these additional boxes are required, but obviously Kynoch's, with their plant and tools ready, will be in an exceptionally favourable position for tendering.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INJUSTICE.

OFFENDED BUMBLE RUINS A POOR MAN.

We have received a visit from Mr. W. N. Harmer, of 32, Mansfield Road, Gospel Oak. Mr. Harmer is a stone and marble mason, who carried on business for some 30 years until failing sight compelled him to give it up. With the few pounds he had left, he decided to open a coffee stall at Boulder Green, where there is an undeveloped estate, from the owners of which he obtained the necessary permission. Mr. Harmer started his business at the stall in October last, and in January he received a demand note from the Urban District Council calling upon him to pay 8s. as a district rate. He heard nothing more from the Council until May 10th, when he had a letter from the Clerk informing him that as he had erected a temporary building for use as a coffee stall without having made application to the Council for permission to do so, he must remove it within 7 days. Mr. Harmer replied that he had the permission of the owners of the estate and did not know it was necessary to apply to the Council, more especially as three other men who had put up stalls had not applied for the sanction of the Council. The Town Clerk answered that these men were parishioners, and the demand was renewed that the stall be removed. There is nothing for Mr. Harmer but to comply, but it means ruin to him, since he has spent his last few pounds on the stall. No doubt he committed a technical offence in not applying to the Council, but surely some discretion ought to be exercised in cases of this kind. It is not suggested that there is anything objectionable in the construction or placing of the stall; the one complaint is that permission was not obtained. Mr. Harmer had a right to expect that the Council would have intimated this objection to him soon after the stall was erected, if any objection was to be made, instead of waiting for six months, and meantime putting him upon the rate book, which Mr. Harmer might well take to mean acquiescence in the erection.

TROUBLE IN THE BANKS.

A GRIM PRACTICAL JOKE.

There seems to be a little unrest amongst the clerical staff of more than one of the leading Banks just now. Two or three weeks ago an incident occurred at one of these Banks, in the front rank, which is probably without parallel. A whole lot of cheques of the Bank in question were marked "R.D" and returned to the customers, these cheques being on some of the best accounts. The rumpus that followed will be easily understood. The manager threatens to dismiss every man at the Bankers' Clearing House unless the culprits were found, but there has been no discovery, and all the Bank was able to do was to transfer a lot of men to country branches. Last week an even more serious incident occurred at the same Bank—namely, the disappearance of two of the most important ledgers. The manager threatens that unless the culprit is found there will be no rises at Christmas, but he has not been found, and meantime the inconvenience to the Bank will be understood. The clerks appear to complain of being over-worked, under-paid, and subject to irksome and unusual regulations. Can there be any connection between this fact and those we have mentioned?

THE ROYAL ACADEMY AND WAR MINISTER.

[The Royal Academy refused the picture of Lord Haldane, painted by Mr. Fiddes Watt, and it is now on exhibition at the White City.]

Though Haldane may by some be damned;
While other people slang him,
He thanks the Royal Academy—
For they declined to hang him!

RICARDO.

LOTINGA'S WEEKLY.

A Real Sporting Pictorial.

Every Wednesday. One Penny.

A STRANGE MARRIAGE.

WHAT IS THE EXPLANATION?

The following particulars of a remarkable marriage have been brought to our notice. We are not at liberty to disclose the names of the parties concerned, but we have every reason for believing that the statement made to us is true. We can offer no explanation of the astounding story, but leave the solution to the ingenuity of our readers.

A French gentleman of ancient family, finding himself a few years ago reduced to penury, crossed over to England, settled in a London suburb, and became a teacher of foreign languages. Fortune dealt hardly with him, and he had difficulty in earning a bare livelihood.

It was his custom to receive certain French newspapers every week, the reading of which provided him with the chief pleasure of his monotonous existence. Whilst reading these papers one day, he came across an advertisement couched in the following terms:—

> Wanted, a French gentleman of good birth and education, to marry a French lady. For particulars apply to . . . . . , solicitor, ... , Paris.

He answered the advertisement and received in reply an invitation to call on the solicitor in Paris.

Having with difficulty raised sufficient funds for the journey, he crossed over, and had a remarkable interview. He was informed that, inquiries concerning himself having proved satisfactory, it now rested with him to accept or refuse the following proposal.

In the first place he was to swear secrecy. This he did. He was then informed that a certain young and beautiful French lady of high connections was willing to marry him under certain conditions. He was not to see her prior to the ceremony. He was to pass the wedding night in the same house but in a bedroom apart from his wife. And he was to leave for England the following morning, undertaking not to return to France except at certain stated intervals—namely, once a year, when he would be required to arrive in Paris in the afternoon, dine with his wife, sleep one night under the same roof, but in a separate apartment, and leave Paris by the first train the following morning for England.

For these negative services he would be made an allowance of £500 a year, so long as he made no effort to discover the reason for so remarkable an arrangement, for at the first sign of curiosity on his part the allowance would be stopped.

He agreed to the terms. The ceremony was performed. The bride proved younger and more beautiful that he had expected to find her; and the house in which he passed his strange and lonely wedding night was sumptuous to a degree.

The next morning he departed for England, and, we understand, he still makes his annual journey to Paris to dine with the wife who is no wife, and to sleep one night under the same roof, but apart from her, returning to England the following day, as mystified as he was at the beginning.

So far as we can see, the only thing likely to upset the arrangement would be his falling violently in love with his wife, or vice versa. Meantime, £125 reaches him every quarter.

Now, who has a solution?

"JOHN" AND "MRS. BULL'S" CORONATION PROCESSION SEATS.

The Syndicate which recently distributed a certain number of shares in John Bull, Limited, and Mrs. Bull, Limited, the respective proprietors of **"JOHN BULL"** and **"MRS. BULL,"** carrying the right to seats to view the Coronation Progress, has secured a magnificent site in the Strand, facing the Church of St. Mary-le-Strand, and seats are now being allocated to the lucky persons entitled to them.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CXLIV.

A DYING WIFE AND A DOCTOR'S BILL.

We have received the following pathetic letter, the statements of which we have verified. Our representative visited the writer's home at Leyton. His wife will probaby die in a month or two. If any of our readers are disposed to help him in his trouble, we shall be happy to be the medium of conveying such assistance to him.

> Nearly three (long) years I have been battling to keep my wife alive, and as free from anxiety as possible, but you will see I have failed, and most miserably. She went under an operation for cancer three years ago in June, the operation being performed by Walter G. Spencer, Esq., at the Westminster Hospital. Her case is hopeless, and she has been slowly dying. In fact, I have been dreading the last for nearly all this time. I say "dreading," for I have felt it so deeply that I can scarcely rest morning, afternoon and night; it is ever with me. I have done all I possibly could to keep her, as is natural I should do. It is as to a doctor's account I beg to ask your opinion. I got my wife to my native home—Wellington, Salop. For a time Doctor H. attended her. I had every hope of paying him; indeed, I have struggled to meet my obligation, for it is a matter of honour. I want to pay him, especially, perhaps, on my wife's account. With the worry, I have had repeated attacks of debility and nervous exhaustion. With these attacks and the consequent inability to earn I have not been able (at times) to buy common necessaries and pay rent! I have received one letter (amongst others) from Dr. H——'s solicitors saying proceedings will be taken if the account of £15 15s. and 5s. (fees) are not paid. On Friday they offered to accept £10 in settlement if paid within 14 days, otherwise proceedings will be taken. I have not 10s., let alone £10. When I think of the shock to *her*—shocks Dr. H. warned me of—when I think of the consequence to her, the disgrace and exposure to myself, I feel I cannot face it. I fully admit my liability, but I have no prospects even yet, or pay I would, if only I could. It ought to be paid, and I have tried, and tried, but of no avail. I cannot bear to think of what my wife will think and do, especially if our home is taken.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CXXIX.—"Rifleman," 5s.; "N.C.O.'s and Men," 22s.; "Regular Reader" (Halifax), one dollar; "Windsor," 2s.

CXXXII.—L. R. C. P. (Hong Kong), 5s.

CXLI.—"Fifer," 6d.; A. B., 5s.; V. N. J., H., 5s.

CXLII.—W. O. A. L., 2s. 6d.; A. B., 5s.; Q. L. B., 6d.; W. D., 1s.; R. H. H., 10s. (The amount of 5s. acknowledged last week as from "Human Document" was sent by "Freemason.")

CXLIII.—J. E. A., 2s. 6d.; "Honest Freemason," 5s.; "May," 10s.; "Chumie and Teaky," 1s.; "Sunny," 1s.; J. J. J., 3s.; "Elstow," 1s.

BIRRELLING AND WANTONNESS.

THOSE "EXPERTS" AGAIN!

We have received some striking information about the business-like methods of the Irish Department of Agriculture, of which Mr. Birrell is *ex-officio* President. Some three years ago, in the neighbourhood of Castledawson, Co. Derry, the Department launched a wonderful scheme to promote textile-flax growing. They offered prizes to farmers producing the best samples of flax, and the prizes were to consist of quantities of the primest flax seed procurable. The joyous prize-winners confidently deposited their prize flax in the bosom of Mother Nature, but when, in the process of time, the flax matured, it was found that the fibre was only one foot in length—about two-and-a-half feet is required for commercial purposes. In fact, the flax was the variety grown for seed alone, and not for fibre; and while it might have suited the vicinity of Norwich, to feed the canaries there, it was useless to Castledawson, where linen is the staple. Of course, there was a great hullabaloo, and the Department had to distribute compensation all round, in some cases to the tune of £30 or more. Poor Ireland, handed over to the "experts," sits, a female Job, on the dunghill of perishing trade, and rubs canary seed into her sores! Perhaps, however, it was all one of those huge fantastic jokes, which are summed up in that eloquent portmanteau word "birrelling."

Every real man with a real beard which requires real shaving, knows that

Stropping IS Necessary.

And because the AutoStrop Safety Razor is the only safety razor that strops itself, it is the only one that will always shave you smoothly and cleanly.

Almost any razor is safe, but the

AutoStrop SAFETY RAZOR

is the only one that is always sharp—the only one that has a self-contained stropping arrangement, with nothing to take apart—the only one that a novice can strop as easily as an expert barber—the only one that gives a velvety shave every day of the week—the only one which makes the hundredth shave, with the same blade, as clean as the first, and consequently—the only one with which there is no continual expense for new blades.

It takes 12 seconds to strop, and it is as easy to clean. Just hold under tap—nothing to take apart.

AutoStrop Standard Set—containing AutoStrop Safety Razor, 12 Blades, horsehide strop, complete in leather case. **21/-**

AutoStrop Tourist Set, No. 6—containing AutoStrop Safety Razor, 12 blades, horsehide strop, silver-plated tube containing shaving soap, silver-plated tube containing shaving brush, complete in leather case. **27/-**

At all High-Class Dealers.
Illustrated Description Free.

AUTOSTROP SAFETY RAZOR CO., LTD.,
61, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.

THE STATE INSURANCE BILL.

A BUNDLE OF UNREDEEMED PLEDGES.

By T. Good.

No huge and complicated Insurance Bill, calculated to have far-reaching—and, in some cases, revolutionary—effects upon finance, upon industry, upon labour, and upon many aspects of the social problem in general, must be permitted to reach the Statute Book without careful consideration and ample debate both in Parliament and the country. As the scheme stands it is neither sound in its principles nor workable in its machinery. It is a pity that our politicians and pressmen did not acquaint themselves with some of the actualities of the multitude of problems the Bill touches before blessing it and its author, and leading the Government to imagine that the measure would have a smooth and speedy passage. In plain language, this Bill will not do! At a later stage we may venture into details; but, at the moment, it is highly necessary to take a broad view of the cardinal principles of the Government scheme and of the plain facts of the problems which it is designed to treat. And it may not be uninteresting to recall some of the promises of the Government. We dealt last week with Mr. Lloyd George's betrayal of the widows and orphans. Three weeks ago we tried to explain that of the two main branches of the poverty problem with which this Bill professes to deal—unemployment and sickness—it gives the least attention to the more urgent question. Solemn pledges on unemployment, like those relating to the widows, are callously broken. So are the pledges given to the medical profession and the collecting insurance agents.

The Unemployed Agitation.

In the first place, the fact should be kept steadily in view that the movement which has culminated in this Bill was not a movement for *sickness* insurance at all, but for *unemployment* legislation. For many years successive Governments had been requested to do something for the unemployed. All the best of our Labour leaders, and most of the best of our social reformers, who were not Labour leaders, devoted their energies chiefly to pressing the claims of the unemployed. The agitation grew. The problem became more acute as industrialism developed and civilisation progressed, and a few years ago it was recognised, almost universally, that the State could no longer decently neglect this big problem. Reformers of nearly all schools of thought began to cast about for remedies. A demand went up for farm colonies and various kinds of relief work. The Labour Party put up the claim for the Right-to-Work. There was danger of some "quack" remedy being applied. I then made bold to point out, through my articles in the Press, that there was no permanent remedy for unemployment. I pointed out that the problem could not be solved; that there must always be some unemployed somewhere; that the change of weather, the vagaries of fashion, the march of science and invention, all combined to displace labour; that industry created unemployment as well as employment; that, in fact, industry not only created, but required, a reserve of idle labour; and that the problem before us was, not how to find *work* for all the unemployed, but how to *feed* them until industry needed their services again in the ordinary course. I pointed out that there was no help, no cure, no remedy for unemployment in any progressive industrial country, but that there was a remedy for the worst evils that accompanied unemployment, and that that remedy was insurance.

Public Opinion Ignored.

The insurance idea caught on, but the Government, instead of appointing a Royal Commission to take evidence, make inquiries, carefully consider how the insurance remedy was to be applied, and then draw up a rough scheme, or make recommendations, sent Mr. Lloyd George to Germany to see how the sickness and accident scheme worked in that country, and an attempt has been made to follow the German example and then hatch the scheme and its details in secrecy, just as an attempt is now being made to rush the Bill through Parliament without full discussion, and without any reference whatever to the nation. All this was bad policy, but it might have passed if the scheme had been a good one. However, the bad policy has been followed by a bad Bill. Mr. Lloyd George has been badly advised. Some important points which ought to have been carefully considered have been absolutely ignored. Advice has been taken in a wrong manner, and sometimes from wrong people. Backstairs influences have been yielded to.

We were promised a scheme that would provide for the "broken soldiers of industry." This scheme shuts out men between 65 and 70 years of age. We were promised provision for widows and orphans. This scheme makes no such provision. We were promised insurance against the "death of the breadwinner." Nothing of the kind is forthcoming. We were promised "adequate insurance" against unemployment. What we are offered is neither adequate in its terms nor insurance in its principles. And it is not even workable—but that by the way.

Promise and Performance.

Mr. Lloyd George, on the eve of the General Election before the last, promised to provide "adequate insurance to save the man who is out of work, perforce, and his wife and family from starvation." That was the promise in Mr. Lloyd George's own words, and it was made by other members of the Government in similar language. What is the performance? To begin with, this scheme covers only one man out of every six in respect of unemployment, and covers him only in a very imperfect manner. Two branches of industry—building and engineering—are selected for the favours of this scheme, while many a worse-paid and worse-conditioned industry gets nothing. In spite of all the promises of Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Churchill, Mr. Asquith, the late Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman and others—promises which would fill pages of this journal—we have the long-suffering unemployed sidetracked to make way for a fantastic German sickness scheme which the nation has never asked for, and all we are offered is a miserable bit of an unemployment scheme for a few men in a couple of trades tacked on to the tail-end of a long sickness Bill, a measure which will provoke a storm of criticism, stir up protracted debates, and may not pass within the lifetime of the present Parliament.

Labour Leaders Neglect Their Duty.

The Bill says that "no workman shall receive more unemployment benefit than in the proportion of one week's benefit for every five contributions." This may be better than nothing; but it is no insurance at all! It is like the Post Office part of the sickness scheme—a subsidised deposit system, which it is an abuse of the English language to call "insurance." What would be said of an insurance company which stipulated that in no individual case would it pay more than one claim for five premiums? The most needy cases of unemployment are left untouched by Mr. Lloyd George's scheme. I have in mind a *bonâ fide* working man in one of the trades covered by this Bill—a young man and a willing man—who, in three recent years, was unemployed for 13, for 26, and for 32 weeks. I know of other cases where it is a common custom, in times of depression, to split the working staff into two equal squads, and employ them alternately for six months at a stretch. I know of trades where men are employed for only eight months out of every twelve in good years. What will Mr. Lloyd George's scheme do for these men? This scheme simply subsidises a few of our most fortunate and best-paid workmen, at the general cost of industry and the nation, while the least fortunate and worst paid men it leaves out in the cold.

When Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman was leader of the Opposition he said that "nothing was more culpable than the levity with which the Government dealt with the unemployed question." That was in November, 1905. What would Sir Henry say now if he were alive? Mr. Asquith, on March 13th, 1908, said that the problem of unemployment was of the "gravest magnitude and greatest urgency." On October 21st, 1908, he declared that the Government "would not shirk the larger issues" when dealing with the problem. On November 3rd, 1908, he said "the whole subject was being thoroughly explored by the Board of Trade." On October 1st, 1908, Mr. Lloyd George spoke of the horrors and deep poverty due to unemployment," and only eighteen months ago he promised, as already mentioned, "adequate insurance" for the unemployed workman "till he gets employment." These promises are broken. Mr. Lloyd George's scheme may, with truth, be described as the biggest bundle of unredeemed pledges ever presented to Parliament. And the Labour Party is inclined to swallow it!

Wherever you go
for your Whitsun

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Take a Kodak with you and make this Whitsuntide the jolliest and best-remembered holiday you ever had.

A Kodak will add to the joy of every hour you spend in the open air and the sunshine. More than that, it will give you an album full of capital pictures that will make this little holiday live for years and years.

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There are Folding Pocket Kodaks from £2.2.0 up to £5.2.6 and Brownies for the Children, from 5/- up to 50/-. Any Kodak dealer will show you various sizes, and will be glad to explain to you what a simple and fascinating pastime Kodak picture-making is.

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Write to-day for "Some Pleasures of a Kodak." This handsome booklet and seven amateur snap-shots will be sent post-free to anyone who fills in this coupon or who mentions "John Bull" on a postcard addressed to

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Please send me free, a copy of "Some Pleasures of a Kodak," and seven amateur snap-shots, as advertised in "John Bull" for June 3, 1911.

Name.....

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.....

THE AKBAR REFORMATORY SCANDAL.

AN OLD-FASHIONED VIEW.

We have received so many expressions of indignation at our revelations that we feel we must not suppress the following old-fashioned and, we hope, obsolete, view of the matter :—

Regarding the so-called "cruelty" at Akbar Reformatory I consider *far* too much has been said about it in JOHN BULL during the past few months.

Captain Beuttler is the very man for the post he holds at the Reformatory, and long may he be there.

A Reformatory—I must remind you—is an institution where boys are sent to return "reformed characters," and while under the roof must receive the punishment of the birch and cane, which is the rule of Reformatories.

Sir, I consider it has been most unnecessary for you to put your spoke into other people's business. Boys must be flogged, otherwise they cannot be *men*, and we want *men* and not "old women" in this island.

Therefore I sincerely hope that this Reformatory subject will not be referred to again in what would otherwise be a most interesting and educational weekly.

We have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of the following further subscriptions towards the fund for the benefit of Mr. and Mrs. Adam, who threw up their situations at the Reformatory in order so expose the abuses at that institution :—C. I., 10s. ; "Lover of Fairplay," 1s. ; "Sunny," 1s. ; T. J. H., 2s. 6d. ; "Bullite," 2s. ; A. C., 2s. 6d. ; J. L. R., 1s. ; "Whitewash," 2s. 6d. ; "Admirer of Pluck," 2s. We shall be glad to receive other subscriptions.

MORMONISM AND THE SUFFRAGE.

MISS PANKHURST, PLEASE NOTE.

A reader sends us an interesting letter which he has received from an old lady of seventy-four years of age, who has resided in Utah for fifty-three years. She vigorously denies that polygamy exists in the State, asserting that parties to such an arrangement are excommunicated from the Church. She also strongly controverts the statement that girls are decoyed to Utah, maintaining that they come and go just the same as any other people in the world. She says that the Mormons have upwards of two thousand missionaries, chiefly young men, who are, called from every walk in life to go out as "ambassadors of the Faith." She also says that the Mormon women are the freest women on the face of the earth. They have the suffrage—voting on all political questions independently. She knows many who vote the opposite ticket to their husbands, just because they believe in their own party, but are good-natured about it. One gentleman and his wife put up on opposite tickets once for State Senator, and the lady won.

In regard to the Church also, they vote on everything just the same as do the men. She adds that the State authorities are thoroughly desirous of assisting the English Government in any investigation they may care to make.

BIRTHDAY OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

June 3rd.—HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIFTH.

Here's to the King! Here's to the King!
May the years health and prosperity bring;
Honour and might, victory in fight,
Sword ever ready to draw—for the right!
Come, let us stand, wine-cup in hand,
Toasting the greatest and first in the land:
Here's to the King! Here's to the King!
May the years health and prosperity bring.

MRS. BULL.
Every Tuesday. *One Penny.*

"JOHN BULL'S" MONTHLY CALENDAR.

JUNE.

1. TH.—JOHN BULL published. Prudential Co. directors summoned to an extra-extraordinary meeting.
2. F.—Easter Law Sittings end. Mr. Justice Avory stretches himself. Sir Edward Elgar's birthday celebrated with *Pomp and Circumstance.*
3. S.—HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIFTH born 1865. God Save the King!
4. *S.*—WHIT SUNDAY.
5. M.—WHIT MONDAY. *St. Boniface*, so called because Bank Holiday, is productive of bonny faces.
6. TU.—*Mrs. Bull* published. Mrs. Grundy feels "sinking."
7. W.—*Lotinga's Weekly* published. Stands in the streets taken up in readiness for the Coronation.
8. TH.—JOHN BULL published. Thomas Paine, hater of shams, humbug, and hypocrisy, died 1809.
9. F.—*Ember Day.* Sitting-room fires extinguished for the summer. But wait and see.
10. S.—*Ember Day.* Housewives glad to light up sitting-room fires again. Crystal Palace opened 1854. Jerry-builders commence to draw up their plans for cutting up the estate.
11. *S.*—TRINITY SUNDAY. Dr. Richard Strauss, who recently "Electra"-fied London, born 1864. Midnight serenade with the tongs and the bones, and other characteristic Strauss music.
12. M.—Suffragettes send their shoes to be soled and heeled in readiness for their great procession.
13. TU.—*Mrs. Bull* published. Mrs. Grundy gloats over her secret copy in a quiet place. Trinity Law Sittings begin. Jurors bid a long and affecting farewell to their weeping wives and wondering children. F. E. Smith refuses a brief.
14. W.—*Lotinga's Weekly* published. Leo George Chiozza Money born 1870. It is no use complaining now.
15. TH.—JOHN BULL published. Prudential Co. decide to inspire a few more articles in obscure weeklies.
16. F.—Fierce riot in consequence of a harem skirt being seen in the streets of London. Garrison of the Tower called out. Mr. Winston Churchill (with a cinematograph man) directs operations.
17. S.—Columns of violent criticism of the Home Secretary's conduct appear in certain newspapers, and articles lauding his intrepidity in others.
18. *S.*—96th Anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo. Many curious sightseers from the country gather on Waterloo Bridge. Business brisk in Stamford Street, wherein there is a sound of revelry.
19. M.—*Alabama* sunk, 1864. American invasion of London reaches its height.
20. TU.—*Mrs. Bull* published. Overseers busy knocking nails in church doors. Many thumbnails discoloured and vergers scandalized.
21. W.—*Lotinga's Weekly* published. Early sightseers, who had taken up their stand in the streets on the 7th, requested to move on.
22. TH.—JOHN BULL published. CORONATION DAY. We shall know more about it when it is all over. Meanwhile, God Save the King! Summer begins. Bank Holiday.
23. F.—Prince of Wales born, 1894. Penrhyndeudraeth, Pontnewydd, and Llanrhystydroad celebrate the occasion with a Leek Feast.
24. S.—QUARTER DAY. Desperate situation of numbers of householders who went the pace during the Coronation. Petition to His Majesty for amnesty from quarter's rent signed by thousands.
25. *S.*—Just Sunday—that's all.
26. M.—New Moon, 1.20 p.m. Sir Ernest Shackleton leads an Expedition to the top of Saffron Hill to observe the phenomenon. The cost of the expedition having been only partly raised up to the moment of going to press, Sir Ernest hopes to obtain the balance by means of one of his well-known and "touching" appeals.
27. TU.—*Mrs. Bull* published.
28. W.—*Lotinga's Weekly* published. Sixpenny telegrams instituted, 1883. (See the connection?—*Compiler.*)
29. TH.—JOHN BULL published. Pillory abolished in the U.K. 1837. But we have JOHN BULL.
30. F.—Battle of Beachy Head, 1690.

THE CLAIMS OF "TUBERCULOZYNE CONSUMPTION REMEDY."

WE INVESTIGATE SOME EXTRAORDINARY TESTIMONIALS OF RESULTS.

From time to time we have received enquiries from persons unfortunately afflicted with the dread disease of consumption, asking us to recommend a "cure." Being unpossessed of special medical knowledge, we have consistently declined the responsibility of doing so in a matter so gravely affecting sufferers, and from this attitude we shall not depart. But, without going so far as to endorse the claims of any preparation to be a "cure," we can investigate the testimonials which are used by the proprietors of a preparation, given to them by persons who have been suffering from the disease, and satisfy ourselves as to their genuineness or otherwise.

With this object in view we called at the offices in Bouverie Street of the Derk P. Yonkerman Co., Ltd., proprietors of the "Tuberculozyne Treatment," where every facility was afforded us to investigate the genuineness of their testimonials, and a ready consent given to our expressed desire to interview some of the writers.

The Company issue four statutory declarations made by patients regarding their cases, and also a publication entitled the *Tuberculozyne Gazette*, in which are printed copies of letters describing remarkable benefits received from their treatment.

A mass of correspondence from patients or their relatives was shown us, all of a satisfactory nature, but we confined our investigation to the originals of the copies of letters that are published. These are kept carefully filed, and we found them to be all properly reproduced. It was pointed out to us that no claims are made for Tuberculozyne beyond the alleviation and cure of persons afflicted with consumption or its allied diseases, it being by no means a "cure all."

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TESTIMONIALS.

The significant point of these testimonials is that they are not the hurried production of hysterical persons who have been suffering from severe illnesses and, finding relief, immediately sit down to express in writing the gratitude they feel, but are simply letters received in the ordinary course of business. It will be observed that in every case a considerable time has elapsed between the cure and the giving of the testimonial—the average period is 2½ years, and that at intervals there have been reports of the maintenance of good health. In all cases where we interviewed the writers of the testimonials, we specially asked the questions:—"Have you received any payment for writing the letters published over your name? Have you received any payment or been offered any for allowing them to be published?" All answered these in the negative. We also asked: "Do you consider Tuberculozyne cured you? Are you at present recommending it freely to those whom you know to be suffering from any throat or lung trouble? Did you pay for the medicine you used?" These questions were all answered in the affirmative.

OUR PERSONAL INVESTIGATION.

We chose for personal interviews four names from the first fourteen in the *Gazette*, and one from the four statutory declarations, with the following results:

Mr. and Mrs. Berrie, of 1, Bickersteth Road, Tooting, London, S.W., had in June, 1908, made a statutory declaration concerning their daughter, who unfortunately was away from home on the occasion of our visit. Her parents fully endorsed the statements made under oath three years ago, and gave us particulars of her case. Early in 1899 she developed a very bad cough and rapidly became practically a skeleton. Two doctors in partnership—specialists in consumption—were consulted, and after conferring together pronounced the complaint a bad case of consumption. The report, after an examination of her sputum, was that tubercle bacilli were present in great numbers. The specialists said she could live only two years, and that her sole chance was to go to South Africa, which at that time was impossible. Another doctor said she had two cavities, as large as the palm of his hand, in her left lung, back and front. He dieted her, and she had several other treatments, which did her more or less good temporarily, but she soon relapsed and the rapid wasting continued. As a last resource, Tuberculozyne was tried. Miss Berrie immediately benefited, and although so lengthy a treatment was unnecessary, it was continued without a break for over twelve months. Both parents stated that "she has not had a day's illness since, and she is now a fine, well-made woman." Mr. and Mrs. Berrie are a highly respectable couple, and we certainly decline to believe that they would say anything they knew was untrue. Recently their daughter has done some very heavy work during a removal of her father's business, and has handled with ease articles weighing half a hundredweight or more. This, to us, appeared a marvellous case, and is so described by Mr. and Mrs. Berrie. Mr. Berrie himself, about twelve years ago, suffered from severe intermittent attacks of bronchial asthma, attacks so serious as to cause him grave alarm—his own words are that they brought him "nearly to death's door." All of the many treatments he tried failed to bring relief, and seeing the rapid progress of his daughter, he decided to experiment with Tuberculozyne. He "immediately began to feel a new man," and has had no severe attack since, although he still has slight recurrences, which he attributes to his age (he is 76), and the disease having become chronic, through want of successful treatment before commencing Tuberculozyne. Mr. Berrie swears by this medicine, and says, if he could afford it, he would willingly spend £1,000 a year in gratuitously distributing it to the suffering poor.

ILLNESS PREVENTS WORK FOR 2½ YEARS.

At Garsington, a village half a dozen miles from Oxford, we interviewed two brothers, Messrs. Harry and Joseph Young. The former we found at work on the highway he being employed by the Local Council, and working hard in all weathers from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. On May 28th, 1904, he wrote, "I am suffering from consumption. . . . I have been at home, and not done any work or earned any money for nearly 2½ years." He underwent the Tuberculozyne treatment, and to-day is well and strong. He confirmed the above statements to us, adding that he had been under three doctors before then, that a London medical man informed his mother he was suffering from consumption, and the doctor wrote "Phthisis" on the certificate when he had to leave work and claim from his club. He considers himself now fully cured, for after five months' treatment he was able to go back to work, and has kept at it since—a matter of nearly seven years—without a break. He commenced to improve during the first month's treatment. Before then he could hardly walk from his cottage to the garden gate without resting to recover his strength. Although he has not been thoroughly examined by the club doctor since his cure, the medical man gave him a certificate of fitness and allowed him to commence work.

HIS BROTHER'S EXPERIENCE.

Mr. Joseph Young confirmed what his brother had said, and told us of his own case. Although the doctor did not name his disease, it was apparently the same as his brother's, only in a milder form, and he also had a certificate enabling him to obtain relief from his club. He felt signs of improvement during the first month's treatment with Tuberculozyne. At the end of five months he was able to resume work, and has been in perfect health ever since. We saw him working in the fields, his appearance corroborating his statement regarding his physical condition. He has not been medically examined since he recommenced work, but after the five months' treatment reported to his doctor his ability to resume.

MISS BOWERMAN'S TESTIMONY.

We next called at the address of Miss Bowerman, at Headington Hill, near Oxford. Unfortunately she was away, but one of her fellow-servants told us that she is quite well, and has been in good health since she announced, on May 27th, 1910, that after taking two months' treatment she felt well. On August 25th, 1910, she further stated, "I think the treatment wonderful, as it has done for me more than the doctors could." We left a note for her, stating that unless we heard from her we should assume that her letters containing these extracts were quite in order, and that she has had no relapse. She has not written us since.

A SEARCH FOR TRUTH—UP A MOUNTAIN.

We also visited Nine Springs, Bitterly—a farmhouse situated half way up a mountain, six or seven miles from Ludlow. We there saw Mrs. Bate, who wrote, on September 4th, 1906, that the recovery of her husband, after having been ill twenty-three weeks (seventeen of which he spent in bed), was "very marvellous." "His strength has increased, he walks about and enjoys his meals once more, he has no cough or pains anywhere, and is looking well." Mrs. Bate confirmed her letter and told us that a doctor who had treated her husband for eight months pronounced his disease consumption. Unfortunately at the time of our visit, her husband was suffering through having strained his heart while performing some heavy agricultural work. This in no way reflects upon the cure by Tuberculozyne, which had been maintained for over four years prior to meeting with this accident. The fact that he was competent to undertake such arduous work is an endorsement of the testimonial.

FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS.

Mr. John Blakeway, of Condover, Salop, was the next case we called on. He reported a cure in January, 1909, and that letter is printed in the *Tuberculozyne Gazette*. He was suffering from "tightness of the chest," which, although it may not appear to be a serious complaint, troubled Mr. Blakeway severely, causing him much suffering. He is not a man, judging by appearances, likely to be unnecessarily frightened regarding his health. We saw him following the plough, and he certainly looks to be as he says "enjoying perfect health." He had two months' treatment in all, taking no other medicine at the same time.

As we stated at the commencement of our article, we cannot take upon ourselves the responsibility of recommending any cure for consumption—but we certainly think that these testimonials—for the genuineness of which we vouch, and which are also guaranteed by the Company under a penalty of £100—demand the very careful attention of anyone suffering from lung and chest diseases.

BANKRUPTCY.

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

As you may have gathered from some of my comments upon the deceitfulness of riches, my sympathies are not altogether mortgaged on behalf of the creditor class. It seems to me that they usually have the remedy in their own hands, for no one can compel them to give credit where no credit is due. If they prefer to take risks in the hope of growing rich quickly, they must pay for their temerity. They are possessed of so many weapons—not only the nets of litigation, but the rods of examination as to means, the spears of committal orders and the noisy cartridges of bankruptcy—that they must be poor sportsmen if they whimper when their fish slips out to sea. Too many creditors lose their heads in an emergency and exhibit undue haste in having recourse to the dynamite of bankruptcy. A scientific disciple of the gentle art would first calculate the effects of a great explosion upon all the waters of Babylon, the value of a mangled corpse as an adjunct to his breakfast table.

A Simple Speculator.

Take the case of my own bankruptcy. As you know, I was in great hopes of vast riches during the rubber boom. The Stock Exchange was represented as a kind of El Dorado offering cheques as plentifully as leaves in Vallambrosa—an appropriate simile, as that is the name of one of the leading counters in the rubber market. But it was like inviting a stranger in a railway carriage to take a hand at the three card trick. I was gambling at a game about which I did not even know the elementary rules. The natural consequence was that I woke up one wet morning and found myself indebted for £3,333 0s. 1d.

Neck or Nothing.

Of course I did my best. I sold my palaces and motors and stables and tiaras for an old song, I offered to encumber my whole future and live on a pound a week, I retired into the garret of which you wot and restricted my diet to the mock-chicken of Mr. Eustace Miles, washed down with non-alcoholic cider. Now my point is this—if my creditor had possessed a glimmer of commonsense he would have accepted all my sacrifices and regarded me as his willing bond-slave, working for his behoof for the rest of my natural life. Instead of this, he turned a deaf ear, and only answered my appeals with the parrot cry of "Twenty shillings in the pound or nothing." The result was that he got nothing. I can only conclude that he was a remarkable philanthropist.

A Word to Prospective Bankrupts.

The experiences of one who has just sauntered through the Bankruptcy Court may be interesting and useful, if only for the encouragement of others. Of course it is humiliating, and has irritating consequences, but it does not turn out to be the living hell which the unsophisticated anticipate. Indeed, I have come round to the old philosophy that the only horror of a catastrophe lies in the anticipation thereof. If only the infernal regions fall equally short of the portraiture of poets and priests, we need no longer spend sleepless nights in morose contemplation of the other world.

Damocles Descends.

I am ashamed to think of the countless adjournments of my Petition vouchsafed by an indulgent Registrar. At last, when I flattered myself that I had a new scheme of composition beautifully cut and dried, his patience suddenly petered out, and he ended my misery by drowsily writing the two words "Receiving Order" on a bit of paper. I was not yet a bankrupt, but I was almost in a position analogous to that of a prisoner on remand. It was my duty to surrender to the Official Receiver, to furnish him with a list of debts and assets, to place myself at the disposal of the Court. I was told, however, that there was no immediate hurry about this business, so I went home to wait and see. I did not have to wait long. Portentous, black-edged, official envelopes, stamped in bold figures with the words "Board of Trade, In Bankruptcy," fluttered in upon me by almost every post. As my home for the time being was a strange hotel, it was not surprising that I should soon notice, or think I noticed, an alteration in the demeanour of mine host and his staff. My bill was now presented to the tick and followed up with lachrymose reminders and pleas of poverty. Altogether, there was a feeling of doom in the air.

Examination in Philology.

My first visit to Court was not precisely cordial. I had been bidden for an early hour when I am usually toying in bed with my first cigarette, so perhaps I did not shine at my best. A severe young man looked me up and down like a turnkey receiving a new gaol-bird. "What is this?" he began in short, sharp tones; "your list of creditors. Really, this is most improper." He might have been a schoolmaster apostrophising a small boy who had come up to be birched. The perplexing thing was that I had not the faintest idea how I could possibly have offended. When I told him so with that engaging innocence which has endeared me to all mankind, he said "*What!*" with unfeigned incredulity. Then he pointed to the word "usurer" in the column set apart for the occupation or description of creditors. "You had their money, I suppose?" he sneered, "and you were very glad to get it. Now that you cannot pay, you take refuge in abuse. They are Jews, blood-suckers and all the rest of it." I pointed out that the word "usurer" did not involve this connotation. "Here again I find 'commission agent,'" he retorted. "What is that? A bookmaker, I suppose. Bookmaker is a good old English word, and I don't see why you should not use it." After this little excursion in philology, however, there were no more breezes, and I spent about two hours in giving as succinct a narrative as possible of all the financial transactions of my past life. As I have never kept an account in my life and possess a memory like a sieve, I am afraid that I cannot have exhibited myself in the light of a very good book-keeper.

Not Out for Blood.

However, the inquisition came to an end at last, and I remained fairly free until the dreaded day of my "first meeting of creditors." When I arrived, I heard someone say, "Oh, he is there," as though I had meditated absconding. Then the Official Receiver came in and read out a sort of summary of my affairs. Then a creditor wanted to say something, but was sharply told, "You want your money I suppose; you are not out for blood." So he subsided. Then to my surprise and relief the ordeal was over.

Advantages of Anonymity.

After this came the formal adjudication, then a number of private examinations to provide the proof or draft of my evidence at the public examination. My experience of all this business was that the officials were exceedingly alert to discover all the facts, but quite courteous and reasonable so soon as they found I had nothing to conceal. One of them, who became quite friendly and asked my advice about his literary development, cocked his eye at me one day and said with an affectation of alarm, "I wonder if I shall read an account of all this in the newspapers. Anyhow, you do not know my name, that is one consolation." Hardly had the ill-fated words left his lips than a messenger came in and apostrophised him. So in answer to the next question I replied very demurely, "Yes, Mr. Jones." Thus did I get one laugh out of my tribulations.

Whitewashed.

The public examination was much more of a full-dress business. A wigged Registrar sat on the judgment-seat while debtors were examined in turn. He hardly said a word all the time, but was evidently anxious to expedite the proceedings, for when an importunate creditor rose and began, "May I ask——?" there was a thunderous "No, you may not. Sit down." About two hundred and fifty questions were put to me by the Official Receiver, but as I had provided most of the material for them, I did not find them very puzzling. A few, however, had been prompted by the enemy and might have disconcerted anyone whose conscience was less clear. However, the whole business is over and, like the village blacksmith, I can look the whole world in the face, for I owed not any man.

I do not even feel that I have defrauded anybody, for the bankruptcy was not of my seeking, and the only result of it is that I am given breathing space to collect money and pay my creditors at my own convenience.

Moral: Never be persuaded to make anyone bankrupt.

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OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAM.

To the Marquis of Anglesey.

DEAR MARQUIS,—I observe that you are Chairman of the newly-formed Hostel for Women, to which Her Majesty the Queen has graciously lent her name; and I understand that you are, also, one of the principal subscribers to the fund for its endowment. The object of the Hostel is to improve the education of girls in the science of motherhood and home life—a most deserving aim. Your interest in such matters is well known, and I doubt not that under the influence of your work and example many a home will in the future be a happier and brighter place than it is to-day.

My immediate object, however, in now addressing you is to suggest an extension of the scope of training in the Hostel. Domestic economy, household management, the duties and responsibilities of maternity—these are all most excellent things. But, my dear Marquis, no one knows better than yourself that they are not all. There is the great question of the sanctity and purity of wifehood—you know what I mean, don't you? Let me just recount an incident which occurred a few months ago, and of which you may have heard. A lady of gentle birth, the mother of two bright little children, and wife of a well-known and rising public man, came, unhappily, under the influence of a society blackguard who dishonoured her and her husband's name. Devotedly attached to her, and to his little family, though with broken heart and bleeding shame—the husband opened wide the door of his household and bade the wandering woman return—prepared to suffer and endure all for the sake of those whom she had borne him and their fair name in the world. Then another blackguard came on the scene—a man of society renown and a friend of the seducer. And, just when all might have been well, he aided and abetted the scoundrel to renew his illicit attentions, and even placed his own house at the disposal of the guilty couple. Wasn't he a wretch? And now a once happy little household is darkened by grief. Tears have taken the place of laughter; shame, of pride, and despair, of hope.

My Lord Marquis of Anglesey, inquire further into this little story. See that everyone connected with your new association appreciates its moral. One cannot be too careful in these degenerate days.

JOHN BULL.

To the Occupant of the Turkish Throne.

GENTLE SIR,—I hear that when you went to the Selamlik the other day, you were imprudent enough to expose yourself to the presentation of a petition by some of your many discontented subjects. No wonder you fainted for several minutes. The incident would have a wonderful effect in consolidating your prestige throughout the fighting races of Islam. If you are not strong enough to please your task-masters, they may find it necessary to look out for another puppet.

JOHN BULL.

To John Rowell, 5, Shipley Fields Road, Shipley, Bradford.

DEAR JACK,—I pen these few lines hoping that you will get more sense by-and-bye. Perhaps the ten guineas damages you have had to pay through the Bradford County Court to Jack Chadwick for playing the amateur detective upon him will help in this direction. You saw Chadwick leaving his work with a sack of firewood for his master; ran after him, seized him by the coat, demanded to know who he was, where he was going, and what he had got in the sack; ran him into the police-station, and gave him in charge of the policeman's missus for "loitering with intent"; had a policeman telephoned for and the bag searched, and found it was full of firewood. You said you expected it to be full of brasses; went to the man's master to inquire about the *bona fides* of the firewood and returned to instruct the constable to let the man off—all this you did because, according to all accounts, you imagine you are a Sherlock Holmes, when in point of fact you are a nuisance and an ass. You have begun to learn your lesson in the County Court, my dear Jack, but if you do not stop this foolery you will probably end in the infirmary.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Wm. Hy. Hodgson, Swan Hotel, Gargrave.

DEAR WM. HY.,—It is surely one of the pleasantest features of our national character that we like to keep our domestic difficulties to ourselves. But you have asked for trouble by inserting the following foolish notice in the *Craven Herald*:—

> PERSONAL EXPLANATION.—I, the undesigned, beg to state that, referring to my wife's desertion and the recent proceedings before the Justices, I feel that I am not wholly free from blame, inasmuch as I was away from home perhaps oftener than I need have been, and my wife appears to have been under the impression that I was indifferent, and had ceased to care for her. This was not so, and I wish it to be understood that under the circumstances I do not feel altogether blameless. I think it due to my wife that the public should know that we are living together again, and that I accept some responsibility for what has happened.

If I were Mrs. Hodgson, I am by no means sure that I should have been satisfied by your grudging confession that you were not "altogether blameless." It does not augur well for her prospects of happiness under your hospitable roof, and I think someone ought to explain to you that married life is far more a question of give and take than you apparently imagine. You deny that you are indifferent, or that you have ceased to care for her. But do you imagine that your smug, half-hearted concessions are evidences of tender regard, or that her position in the neighbourhood will be made more comfortable by your action? Your smugness reminds me of someone connected with your neighbouring town, Skipton. Perhaps there is something in the local air.

JOHN BULL.

To Chief Constable Scott, South Shields.

MY DEAR CHIEF CONSTABLE,—As I stated in my letter to the Chief Constable of Hull, I have not the least sympathy with licensees who knowingly permit their houses to be used for illegal acts. But the matter is on a different footing when the police, with the object of getting a conviction, employ and pay men to make bets in a public house so that evidence not otherwise available may be obtained.

Take the Cumberland Arms case. Your first witness was a man out of employment. He had several times met a policeman named Almond, and between them it was arranged that he should go to the house and make bets—the money for the purpose being given to him. Your next witness was a friend of this man. Having got statements from this pretty pair, an Inspector went to the house with two other officers and searched the place. The reward of their pains was that they found "a number of guides and other documents relating to horse races," none of them later than 1910, and nothing else. And every person in the bar denied knowledge of any betting transactions in the house. That was the police evidence, every scrap of it, Mr. Chief, and the magistrates marked their sense of its value by dismissing all the cases with costs. If this sort of thing is to be allowed, there is not one licensee in the whole Kingdom who would be safe.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Deacon, Dale Street Police Court, Liverpool.

DEAR CADI,—You seem to have had the worst of it with a prisoner whom you tried to badger. Being charged with stealing a fraction of a meat-pie, he pointed out that he had entered a shop and said, "Will you give me a piece of pie?" not "Will you sell me a piece of pie?" Literally he appears to have been in the right, but perhaps you were justified in stretching a point and punishing him for his tricky intentions. Still, when you asked the prosecutrix whether he was drunk and she replied in the negative, it was foolish of you to say, "I do not think that on a question of a man's drunkenness I should ask a young lady's opinion." As the prisoner very properly pointed out, you had already done so. In fact, he had you on the horns of a dilemma, and it was a mean retaliation to answer him with fourteen days.

JOHN BULL.

Winston Churchill, Home Office.

Hearty congratulations birth of son and heir. No anxiety now for future of Empire.

BULL.

A MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

WILL HE PASS THE DOCTOR?

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

SATISFACTORY MONETARY AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS—WHY DOES NOT BUSINESS REVIVE?

The monetary position is most satisfactory, gold is accumulating at the Bank of England, having even come to hand from Paris, and now that the "Bears" have probably done their worst, and that through their machinations the speculative account is greatly reduced all round, we ought to see improving prices and more business. Why people should put off business until after the Coronation I cannot really see. Nor do I see any reason why Home Rails should fall away, when so many factors will make for big traffics. American Rails are, as usual, full of surprises, and if the steel question should be the upshot of a quarrel between Morgan and Gates, it would be best to stand from under. Canadian Rails are promising, Mexican Rails should rally now that the new régime is on trial in Mexico; Fez has been relieved, and there are no clouds on the political horizon. Rubbers are still a doubtful spot, but Oil shares are on the eve of a rise, and there are indications of a more permanent recovery in Rhodesians first and in Kaffirs after. The question is only *when* the signal will be given.

CORPORATION STOCKS AND THE CENSUS.

I do not here propose to discuss the general results of the census, but merely the bearing which it has upon the credit of certain Corporation Stocks. As most of my readers are probably aware, British Corporation Stocks are only Trustee investments when their population is over 50,000, so that such stocks command a better price than the stocks of other boroughs of smaller proportion. As Messrs. Frederick C. Matheson and Sons, of 16, Copthall Avenue, point out in a little circular, the population of Burton-on-Trent has decreased from 50,386 in 1901 to 48,275, according to the latest census. Hence if the figures of the summary are confirmed, this stock would no longer be a Trustee investment, although there is no reason for trustees changing the investment. The following eight boroughs have, according to the new census, advanced above the 50,000 population limit, viz., Bath 50,729 (increase 890), Blackpool 58,376 (increase 11,028), Dudley 51,092 (increase 2,359), Eastbourne 52,544 (increase 8,970), Gloucester 50,029 (increase 4,492), Lincoln 57,294 (increase 8,510), Oxford 53,049 (increase 3,713), Southport 51,650 (increase 3,567). These stocks are now quoted as follows, and I have added the yield and present price:—

	Highest. 1911.	Lowest. 1911.	Present Price.	Yield per cent. per Annum. £ s. d.
Bath 3 per cent.	86½	84	85	4 1 3
Do. 3½ per cent.	95¼	93½	94	3 16 9
Eastbourne 3 per cent.	84½	85½	84	4 1 0
Do. 3 per cent.	84½	83½	84	3 18 9
Gloucester 3 per cent.	83	82	82	3 18 0
Lincoln 3 per cent.	82½	80½	83	3 13 9
Oxford 3 per cent.	85½	82½	85	3 16 6
Burton-on-Trent 3 per cent.	85½	84½	85	3 16 6

How far quotations will be modified by this latest change remains to be seen. British Corporation stocks are not usually a quickly moving stock. The proviso must also be made that there should be no mistake in the summary of the census, and, as Messrs. Matheson remind us, in the last preliminary return of 1901, the population of Bournemouth was given as 47,203, owing to a portion of the Borough having been omitted, but this was afterwards corrected to 59,762. More serious was the case of Eastbourne, which was just issuing a prospectus of the stock, and stating that it would be eligible for trustees. When the census was published the population was shown to be only 43,337, and the Corporation agreed to refund to shareholders the difference between a trustee stock and a non-trustee stock, which was put at 3 per cent., and £4,270 was so returned. There is, however, no reason for anticipating any similar discrepancy in the present instance.

TROUBLES OF THE RUBBER MARKET—PRICES GRADUALLY REACHING BEDROCK.

The troubles of the rubber-share market appear to be endless as present, and the "Bears" have now been given a fresh opportunity for carrying out their nefarious operations by reported difficulties in Liverpool and in Mincing Lane. Both positions, however, are being gradually liquidated, and the artificial character of the rubber market may be gathered from the considerable premium at present ruling for Plantation over Hard Fine Para. The position of the Brazilian syndicate is still "wropt in mystery," and pending the elucidation thereof, consumers continue to buy only from hand to mouth. In the share-market prices are gradually reaching bedrock, and there are undoubtedly some good opportunities going here for advantageous investment on the part of those who can pay for and take up their shares, thus making themselves indifferent to any further fluctuations that may yet take place. A striking example of this is *Linggis*, which at one time have been down to 41s., and now stand at 41s. 6d cum the dividend recently declared, at which the yield now offering is more than 12½ per cent. per annum. This is all the more noteworthy in view of the very strong financial position of the Company. What applies to the *Linggis* is applicable to many of the other leading producing companies, but investors should be chary of going too heavily into those concerns with small capitals, but whose shares still stand at huge premiums. The result is that such shares have a very narrow market, especially in times like the present, and the purchase or sale of only a few shares has an altogether disproportionate effect upon quotations. This is shown by the heavy fall which has taken place, for instance, in *Sagga* £1 shares, to 10. Another instance is the fact that while *Federated Selangor* £1 shares are supposed to be about 10, a large number of these were said to have been offered last Friday at £7 apiece! Similarly big declines have taken place in other "heavy" shares, and the lesson to be drawn therefrom is obvious.

NO DAYLIGHT YET IN MINES—KAFFIRS QUIESCENT—THE RHODESIAN POSITION—HARMONY POSSIBILITIES.

No daylight is yet to be seen in the Mining department, and the market is generally of opinion that no real revival can be expected this side of the Whitsun holidays and the Coronation festivities. Yet the time to buy is when the market is dull, instead of waiting till prices are actually on the rise. As regards the Kaffir market, the *Durban Roodepoort* is first in the field with its interim dividend of 10 per cent. actual, and a further batch of announcements may be expected in the course of the next week or two. Thus, although shares generally have fallen to a very low level, present prices are full of dividend. Moreover, some favourable statements were made at the *Goerz* meeting in Johannesburg on Friday, the view being expressed that the recent increase in working costs on the Rand would prove purely temporary. The chief interest, perhaps, attaches to the position in Rhodesians. While matters on the various gold-mining fields are proceeding satisfactorily, and the *Lonely Reef* has already proved that it is living at depth, while the adverse rumours regarding the *Giant* have been denied, the market position still leaves a good deal to be desired. There are rumours that all the differences amongst the heads of the market have been settled, and that they will now combine to give a lead to their specialities sooner or later. But while no doubt, in some respects, it would be an advantage to start an upward movement at as low a level as possible, the fact should not be overlooked, in the course of getting down prices to what the "shops" may consider bedrock, that holders may become so disgusted at the heavy losses which this process entails upon them, that, however well the leaders may pipe, investors may refuse to dance to their tune. It is, therefore, advisable, with an eye to the future, to at least keep the market steady until matters are in shape for starting the promised upward movement. There is no disguising the fact that the *Jungle* market is at present in a bad way, and that, until the insiders give better support, there is no telling how low prices may go. On intrinsic merits, *Prestea Block A* are very cheap at 31s. 6d., but they will doubtless be influenced by the course of the market generally. *Westralians* have shown comparative steadiness, especially *Great Boulders* at 17s. 3d., on the maintenance of the 9d. interim dividend. *Bulfinch Props.* are easier at ½, the latest development report not coming up to expectations. *Broken Hill* shares have been on the dull side, and *Zinc Corporation* have been steadily on the downgrade at 11s. 3d. *Indian* mines have been rather a weak spot, especially *Mysore* at 5 5-16, for no other reason that I can discover than that some holders in the North, who were badly hit by the fall in other markets, have had to let go these shares. *Copper* shares have fairly maintained their recent improvement, amid reports of big sales of the metal in New York, and *Tintos* are at 68½, *Amalgamated* at 69, *Anaconda* at 8 3-16. The *Utah Copper Company* has just declared a dividend of 75 cents per share. *Tin* shares have been a firm spot, on the strength of the metal, and a feature has been the good buying of *Southern Shan States*, which have risen to 1 7-16 bid, on the approaching issue of the first subsidiary, the *Mawchi Tin and Wolfram Mines, Limited*, directly after Whitsuntide. The *Russian* group has been fairly active, especially *Kyshtims*, the ordinary rising to 2 5-16, the debentures to 150, in anticipation of

their early introduction on the Paris Bourse. On the other hand, *Troitsk Goldfields*, after rising to 4s. 6d., collapsed to 1s. 6d. on the news of the disastrous fire in the mine, and now stand at 2s. 3d. It is, of course, useless to flog dead horses, but I should like to direct the special attention of my readers to the vast potentialities of the Harmony Group, in the light of the interim directors' report of the *Harmony Development and Finance Company*. Four of the farms have been scheduled for the railway extension, which is expected to be completed before the end of the year, while on all but one of the eight farms owned, the reports of the engineers show that the prospecting work has located metalliferous deposits consisting of gold-bearing formation, hematite, and copper. Two of the farms are already about to be proclaimed as public goldfields, and the formation of a number of subsidiary companies by the *Harmony Proprietary* and the *Development and Finance Companies* is foreshadowed. Yet *Harmony Props.* are down at 5s. and *Developments* at 2s. 3d. After all, the damage by fire to the Hollinger Mine was not so heavy as had been anticipated, and the company has decided to increase its mill at once to 60 stamps. The shares thereupon have recovered to 2⅜, and Ontario Porcupine Goldfields Development shares are firm at 5-16 to ⅜ premium.

ANOTHER "BEAR" RAID ON MAIKOP SHARES—SEVERE "BEAR" SQUEEZE IN OIL TRUST OF GALICIA—GENERAL IMPROVEMENT EXPECTED AFTER THE SETTLEMENT.

Movements in the Oil share market have been irregular, but some sensational advances have taken place. Thus, on the announcement that the special settlement was fixed for June 8th, the "Bears" of Oil Trust of Galicia shares took fright, and the shares took a jump to 3⅜. The ursine party are in for severe, if well deserved, punishment. My readers will remember that I recommended these shares from par (£1) upwards. The "Bears" of Maikop shares are also playing with fire, and with their renewed raid they are courting disaster. Investors will do well not to heed the vapourings of a so-called expert, who is again holding forth anonymously in an evening paper. What they should bear in mind is that the value of the field has been conclusively proved by the "gushers" of the *Black Sea Oilfields*, the *Maikop Oil and Petroleum Producers*, the *London and Maikop Corporation*, the *Maikop Spies*, and the *Maikop Victory*. Oil has been struck on plots 45, 65, 110, 113, 123, 137, 207, 238, 354, 460, 462, 512, 526, while spouters exist on the following plots:—411, 489, 490, 513 and 533, and gas indications on plots 17, 25, 59, 69, 78, 90, 147, 153, 169, 211, 222, 439, 625 and 628. It is impossible to doubt, therefore, the position of *Maikop* amongst the leading oilfields of the world. It is interesting to note that the first shipment of Maikop oil for export, by the s.s. "Maikkavey," which left Novorrossisk with over 2,000 tons for Odessa, the oil having been pumped by pipe line to Ekaterinodar and thence transported by rail. This export is expected to assume large proportions. In the meantime, cheap shares that ought to be bought are *Black Sea Ordinary* at 1⅛, ditto *Prefs.* at 1 3-16, *Maikop Victory* at 5-16 premium, *Maikop Valley Prefs.* at ¼ discount, and *London and Maikop Corporation* at 1-16—⅛ premium. The *Cheleken Oilfields* announce a production for the week ended May 21st of 875 tons. A special settlement for the shares, now quoted 1½, has been applied for. A new naphtha well has been discovered on the island of Cheleken, stated to yield a million poods a day. There has been busy buying of *Ural Caspians* on favourable rumours, the price having been pushed up to 1½. *Egyptian Oil Trust "A"* recovered their fall, being quoted 3⅛, and *Red Sea Oilfields* recovered to 1 1-16, as it is now being recognised that the companies are doing their utmost to hasten the marketing of the oil struck some time. *Shell Transport* are steady at 8gs. *Argentine Gulf* have declined to 1½, *Lobitos* to 15s., but *Mexican Eagle* have hardened to 33s. 3d., and *Spies* have improved to 35s. 6d.

NEW ZEALAND OILFIELDS.

Mr. J. D. Henry, the well-known oil expert, who was recently commissioned by the New Zealand Government to prepare an independent report on the Oilfields of the Dominion, states that they will before long attract world-wide interest, and that he will be greatly surprised if New Zealand Oil does not command public attention before the end of this Empire year. The *New Zealand Oilfields, Limited*, own Oil concessions covering 230 square miles are admirably situated for easy transport to markets of the world. The Company has large financial resources and its shares at the present price of about 1s. 6d. offer one of the best chances in the Oil market.

NEW ISSUE.

TURTLE CUP (1911) LIMITED.

This Company has been formed to acquire as a going concern from January 1st, 1911, the business carried on by Turtle Cup Limited as food purveyors, and to provide further capital to advertise and futher develop the preparations dealt in by that Company, and in Particular "Turtle Cup," and to acquire 12,000 shares of £1 each in a Company called the T. K. Bellis Turtle Company (1911) Limited, the total nominal capital of which is £15,000. "Turtle Cup" is a well-known concentrated food, manufactured under a secret process, containing a large proportion of real turtle, and is deservedly popular, and frequently prescribed to invalids. It is already retailed by many well-known firms, and over 2,000 retailers and other customers are on the books of the Company. The profits earned by the Company are stated to have met with the entire satisfaction of the Directors, and in view of the success of Companies owning similar preparations, "Turtle Cup (1911) Limited," should have a prosperous career. The capital is £60,000, divided into 55,000 6 per cent. deferred Ordinary shares of £1 each, and 100,000 deferred shares of 1s. each. After 6 per cent. dividend has been paid, the preferred share the remaining profits with the deferred. An issue of 30,000 6 per cent. Preferred Ordinary shares of £1 each is now made at par. The Directors and their friends are taking no less than 50 per cent. of the issue.

CALIFORNIAN AMALGAMATED OIL.

The statutory meeting of the Californian Amalgamated Oil Co., Ltd., was held on Monday at Salisbury House, London Wall, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Errol, K.T., C.B., presiding.

The Chairman explained that although the meeting had been called merely to comply with the formal requirements of the Companies Act, he gladly proposed to take advantage of the opportunity to give the fullest possible information with regard to the property which, under the agreement mentioned in the report, the Company was to acquire. The Company, he reminded them, was incorporated on March 31st last, with an authorised capital of £350,000, for the purpose of acquiring, among other things, certain royalty leases situated in the mid-way Elk Hills and Kern districts, in the State of California, having an aggregate area of about 680 acres. The purchase price to be paid by the Company was £280,000, to be satisfied by the issue of fully-paid shares, and they would have seen from the summary of receipts and payments that 31,255 shares had been applied for, and paid for in full, and that out of a sum of £31,255 received, the directors already remitted £9,600 to California for the purchase of plant, etc., required for the carrying on of drilling operations. A balance of £21,379 remained at the Company's bankers in London. His Lordship proceeded to describe the reports of the leases which had been made by Mr. Ralph Arnold and Mr. Harry R. Johnson, both oil experts of considerable eminence in California, joint authors for the United States Geological Survey Department of a Blue Book on the California Oilfields, and the latter consultant to the Company. Mr. Johnson had reported that the whole of those properties were underlain by oil sands, and a great part by the oil sands of the Midway fields; the leases were most conveniently situated in respect of both railway and pipeline facilities, two factors the importance of which would be obvious to them; while they had at present properties earning revenue on sections 26 and 35, the former producing oil, and the latter water, a very saleable commodity in the particular neighbourhood. On section 26 they had at the time of Mr. Johnson's report two wells at work, and Mr. Johnson had expressed his opinion of the value of that lease on the basis of existing development and production as from $260,000 to $400,000. Since the date of Mr. Johnson's report further drilling had been undertaken, with the result that in wells No. 4 and 5 ore had been struck, while well No. 6 was 780ft. deep, and No. 7 had been commenced. It was a pleasing circumstance that as each well drilled in that direction struck the oil sands, they were found materially to increase in thickness, indicating more and more productive wells. On section 35 they had one well throwing 2,000 barrels a day, and a second well had been sunk. The manager expected shortly to be taking on contracts for about 10,000 barrels of water daily. A fact of even greater importance was the recently-struck Buick Well, less than a mile to the south-west, where, he said, they had a daily production of some 2,000 barrels of oil of 25 degrees specific gravity. Mr. Johnson considered the Buick Well to be positive evidence of the great value of their property in that section, which he put at not less than $800,000. They had already started work there, and contracts had been recently let for drilling. Mr. Johnson expressly wished to record himself a firm believer in the future of that property, putting the value of it when the first well succeeded at 2,000,000 dollars. There was little probability of oil being found at less than 3,000ft., or even 4,000ft., but it was recommended that $75,000 should be set aside to allow drilling to even 5,500ft. if necessary. Having dealt with Mr. Johnson's views, the Chairman proceeded to refer to some of the statements of Mr. A. G. Wilkes, one of the vendors, and the then resident manager. That gentleman estimated the prospected revenue of the three oil wells on section 26, and of the water well in section 35, at £142 per day, showing a net annual revenue of £40,000. He had also made certain recommendations for future developments to be proceeded with forthwith, and at the end of nine months, on its completion, he estimated the daily production would be 4,900 barrels of oil from fourteen wells, and 15,000 barrels from three wells, which should show a total daily revenue of $3,500, and an annual revenue of £175,000. Mr. Wilkes also considered that the development would cost £24,500, and as at the date of his estimate the Company had £30,000 in cash, it would appear that the cost was amply covered. That gentleman also thought that the property would not be fully developed until at least 100 wells had been drilled, and as the estimate to which he had referred was from fourteen wells only, it would be seen that the ultimate possibilities of the Company were very much greater. He, however, thought that the method in which the vendors had taken their purchase prices showed, too, their faith in its ultimate value. Mr. Wilkes had had considerable experience in the oilfield, and the Company had appointed him their manager for a period of one year, at the not extravagant salary of £1,000 per annum. Mr. Edward Hooper, one of their directors, was a well-known mining engineer, and they were able in that way to have the benefit of his valuable advice on all technical matters. Their auditors, moreover, had a branch office in San Francisco, which enabled them to keep in close touch with the expenditure on the property.

The Chairman then proceeded to put to the meeting a resolution adopting the agreements for the purchase of the leases and other assets of the property to which he had referred in the opening part of his speech, which resolutions were carried unanimously.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 9, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

RUBBERS.—CLERK (Armagh).—I do not care much for either of the Rubber shares in question, but you will probably have to hold them for the present, as there is very little market under present conditions. As regards the Railway stock, No. 3, this is fairly promising, but I think that at present better opportunities are to be found in Home Rails. A. F. B.—For the benefit of other holders of shares in the Congo Rubber Estates, I herewith mention your announcement that a movement is afoot with a view to a thorough investigation into this company, and that dissatisfied shareholders may communicate with Messrs. Edward Fryer and Webb, solicitors, 18, Scarborough Street, West Hartlepool, who have the matter in hand. AULD REEKIE.—I do not think much of these share, but there is no option but to hold them for the present, as there seems to be little or no market. DONE BROWN.—Since receiving your letter, the directors have announced a scheme for extinguishing the uncalled liability, and this answers your question. No doubt you have received the latest circular. J. M.—I do not care for any of your Rubber holdings except No. 3, which should go better again presently. Just now the market is in the throes of a severe spasm, owing to forced liquidation. F. L. R.—The fall in these shares is due entirely to the general depreciation of Rubbers and Oils. It should be worth while averaging now. NEMESIS.—No information is available since the statutory report was submitted last July, and there is no market for the shares. You ought to get into communication with your fellow-shareholders for the purpose of presenting a combined demand for information as to the present position.

COLONIAL AND PREMIUM BONDS.—A. C. (Cairo).—You can only buy Colonial Government bonds through a stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange. (2) No. The only way would be that a foreign banker in London, who makes a speciality of Premium Bonds, should give you the information against a small charge. I send you his address. (3) These are highly speculative, and not suitable for you.

OILS—GREASE.—(1) These shares might be held at present, but they are not situated in a "fashionable" district. (2) I am still favourably disposed to Maikop Valley Prefs., which are unduly low. SPRIG.—(1) No; it is considered that the shares are intrinsically worth ½ prem. (2) The financial position is excellent, the company having started with £125,000 working capital, of which more than half is still liquid. (3) On June 30th. (4) 8, Princes Street, London, E.C. B. I. B.—You should ask the secretary for the statutory report, submitted to the shareholders on July 18th last. No fresh information is available. The *entourage* is a respectable one, but you will have to contain your soul in patience for further information until the next directors' report is issued, probably early in July. There is no market for the shares. FELIX A.—Both shares have considerable possibilities, and should be held. This applies more particularly to Eastern Petroleums.

PICTURE ENTERTAINMENTS.—MISS E. A. J.—(1) As a rule, you should not have anything to do with small picture entertainment enterprises, but with larger concerns, such as mentioned in last week's issue. (2) The firm mentioned are outside brokers, and I should advise you to deal with a member of the Stock Exchange.

LONDON VENTURES.—RESTLESS.—These shares are cheap enough now, and you might as well average.

TRANSACTION IN BRIGHTON "A."—OSCAR.—You bought Brighton "A" at 111½, with 2 per cent. cover. They subsequently rose to 113¾, on April 12th, which is quite correct. Then you ought to have given instructions to sell and clear your profit, instead of which you waited until the shares fell away again, and now you have got no claim. Of course, these outside brokers are not philanthropists.

SPECULATION IN UNION PACIFICS.—F. W. (Chelsea).—It is, of course, possible to speculate in American shares with a £10 note, but a sudden fall would at once sweep away that amount in order. You had better save some more money, and then invest it in sound securities.

SMALL INVESTMENT.—OBSERVER.—I cannot advise investment in either of the societies in question, and as you are full up at the Post Office, you have no option but to put the money into gilt-edged securities. Another plan is to loan it to one or other of the British Corporations, who often advertise for deposits at fixed rates of interest.

LOCAL LOANS.—COPTHALL.—There is nothing to be said against an investment in Local Loans, except that the continued decline in Consols is reacting adversely upon other gilt-edged securities. Irish Lands are also worth attention, as it is believed that there will not be any necessity to make further public issues thereof in the future.

PURCHASE OF SHARES.—W. W.—In the first place, it is far preferable to buy shares direct through a broker, instead of a bank. Secondly, your contract note should tell you exactly how you stand. As far as I can make out, your shares cost you £17 8s. 9d., besides commission and stamp fee. As regards the bank shares, write and ask the secretary what has been done in the matter, but it takes some time before the share certificates are actually issued. Personally, I should prefer investment in sound securities, which are fully paid up.

VARIOUS.—C. G. M.—(1) Paraguay Central 6 per cent. Prior Lien bonds are a good holding of the kind, but not gilt-edged. (2) Ditto. (3 and 4) Lever Bros. B Prefs. and Van Den Bergh B Prefs. are fair Industrial holdings. If you distribute the amount you have to invest over all four, you cannot go far wrong.

MINING INVESTMENTS.—R. L. L.—You have a good holding amongst mining investments, viz., Kleinfontein, El Oro, Nundydroog, and Mysore, and there is no reason for parting with any at present.

CAPITAL AND COUNTIES.—DOVER BANK.—Certainly, retain, your shares. The quotation obviously rises or falls with the amount of the dividend, but the shares are a sound investment.

BREWERY STOCKS.—GOLDFINCH.—The period of suspense is now over, and no further taxation has been imposed on the brewing industry. Under these circumstances, it might be advisable to hold the shares in question for an improvement. No Brewery stock, however high-class, can be called "safe" under present conditions.

VARIOUS.—NOVICE.—(1) See my article on Mines. (2) Only the sound shares, and then only if you can afford to pay for and take up what you buy. (3) I prefer Balcobo Tin. (4) Cam and Motor are promising amongst Rhodesians.

CHILLAGOE.—IRONSIDE.—(1) Yes, no doubt a stockbroker would buy that amount of Chillagoe shares for you. (2) This has been attended to.

SUMMER DEEP.—G. K.—After the heavy fall, it is hardly worth while selling now, but I do not advise any further purchase of the shares until the Kaffir market generally goes better.

HOME RAILWAY PREFERREDS.—FIONA.—Put the money into the Preferred Ordinary stocks of the Brighton, South-Western, and South-Eastern Companies, yielding from 4¼ to 4¾ per cent. per annum.

INDUSTRIALS.—ASTER.—(1) This has been forwarded. (2) Of a speculative character, but not unpromising. (3) Ditto. Do not load yourself up too much with any one particular share. (4) I prefer the leading institutions for obvious reasons. (5) This has been a great disappointment, and it is impossible to say whether the shareholders will ever see their money back again. (6) Not now, in the present dull state of the markets.

OILS AND RUBBERS.—BARGOED.—You have paid very high prices for the two Oil shares in question, and you should hold the same. Average when there are indications of the market taking a turn for the better. Also hold Beverley Tea and Rubber, and follow the same course when the opportunity offers.

CHILLAGOES, ETC.—J. G. E.—The Mining shares are a good lock-up, but I do not care for the Argentine estates.

OBSCURE MINES.—SEESAW.—(1) I do not like these Rubber shares, and instead of taking a further interest therein, advise you to buy some of those mentioned from time to time in my articles. (2 and 3) There is no market for either of them, and I do not advise a further purchase. You can do far better in other descriptions.

CORPORATION LOANS.—RADCLIFFE.—The Corporations in question are, of ccurse, quite safe. Presumably, the same remark applies to the gas and water undertakings, Nos 6 to 8, although inquiries should also be made locally. Armstrong and Vickers Debentures are good industrial holdings of their kind.

OILS, COPPERS, ETC.—FRANK.—The Scotch Oil shares, Nos. 1 and 2, are adversely affected by the Oil War, but it is hardly advisable to sell now. (3) Arizona Coppers should go up with other similar descriptions. (4) Sumatra Para will move with other Rubbers; they are a good holding. (5, 6, and 7) Obviously, highly speculative holdings, but fairly promising.

FIVE PER CENT. YIELD.—CALFAX.—Put half the money into Western Australian 3½ per cent. Bonds, and the other half into South-Eastern Railway Preferred stock.

(A large number of replies are unavoidably held over.)

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—H. F. S. (Brighton).—We have so frequently expressed our opinion as to the inadvisability of paying upon the kind of policy you send for our inspection, that we have nothing further to add unless it be that we remain of the opinion that these policies are very misleading, and give nothing like a fair return for the money paid upon them. TAFFY (Ebury).—In the circumstances named, there is no insurable interest. R. H. (Gateshead-on-Tyne).—We agree, but we do not see what you can do. The policies bear no cash surrender whatever, and consequently, the company is under no obligation to pay such surrender value.

STATUS OF OFFICE.—W. C. (Bicester).—The office you mention is an excellent one.

CLAIM UPON BOOK.—NEMO (East Ham).—You would, we think, have great difficulty in establishing the claim you propose to make. Of course, if £10 was to be credited to your account, and it has not been so credited, you can insist upon its being done.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—CAREFUL (Hull).—We think you may safely continue payments. REALISABLE (Bradford).—We do not think the policies, which are returned, are of any value. DOUBTFUL (Colwyn Bay).—See previous answer. J. M. A. (Birkenhead).—The policy, which we return, seems to be in order. A. B. (York).—We think the matter would be put right if you communicate the facts to the head office. We return your policy.

LAW INTEGRITY INSURANCE CO.—A. W. O. (Liverpool).—Send us the balance-sheet, and we will give you our opinion.

PRICE OF ANNUITY.—CODE (Blackpool).—Roughly, the cost would be £570.

COLONIAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—SIMON (Penarth).—If, as the general manager says, the proposal you made to the society was for a sum assured of £200, payable at your death with tontine options at the end of 20 years, and if this proposal is signed by you as the basis of the contract, and the policy was written and executed in accordance with that proposal, we do not see how there could be room for misapprehension.

CITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—W. B. (Guildford).—You have been misinformed on the point you name. As to taking out an Ideal policy, we do not think there would be much difficulty. Why not apply to the head office? FAIR PLAY (Southborough).—You complain of unfair treatment, but before you can do so justly you must show that some portion of the contract entered into by the company with you has been violated, and this you have not done. Misfortune has come to you, as you say, and you are unable to continue your premiums. That being the case, you have to ascertain what the company offers in cases like yours, and the actual offer made to you is in accordance with the conditions made known to you. If you cannot continue the insurance, we cannot see why, assuming that you are in sound health, you should not take the opportunity of transferring your policy to full benefit life. For the rest, we have been in communication with the company, and they gave us a copy of your letter to them of May 17th, which you had omitted to enclose with the other correspondence. From that letter we learn that you were a representative of the company, and consequently must have been well acquainted with the conditions under which you received the policy. Moreover, it appears that before you accepted the surrender and signed the discharge of your policy, you informed the company that you were aware of the conditions of surrender.

ARMY, NAVY AND GENERAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—H. R. W. (London).—There is a good deal in what you say as to the accounts, but we must hope that the current year will show a better result, and that the directors will abstain from a repetition of litigation of the kind which last year cost them so heavily.

HEARTS OF OAK LIFE AND GENERAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—W. D. (Bures).—The answer to your question is in the affirmative.

MUTUAL LIFE OF AUSTRALASIA.—PALACE (West Norwood).—Yes, certainly.

STATUS OF COMPANY.—J. S. (Belfast).—It is true that the company is in liquidation, but our information is that it is likely to be reconstructed, and we advise you to go on paying your premiums.

REFUGE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—J. G. (North Shields).—We do not think there is any insurable interest, and consequently you have no remedy.

GENERAL ACCIDENT, FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—H. B. (Perth).—We are not able to inform you why a Royal Warrant of Appointment has been granted to this company.

INSURANCE AMALGAMATION.—R. S. (Hertford).—We agree that you ought to have had notice of the meeting and been given the right to attend. As usual, the directors and the secretary have been treated very liberally in the terms of transfer, but undoubtedly the terms given to the Economic shareholders were liberal.

BRITISH NATURAL PREMIUM COMPANY.—E. D. G. (Edgbaston).—It was a most unfortunate ending. The company did its business on a rotten system, and the end of it was disastrous, as it was bound to be.

FIVE POLICIES.—K. G. (Clapham).—We think you have "the hang of it." The policies are returned.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL ASSURANCE.—W. H. M. (Bournemouth).—We are afraid you cannot enforce return of payments made. We return policies.

ROYAL LONDON FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—FAIR HORNEY (Edinburgh).—There is, in our opinion, no insurable interest. E. E. N. (Herne Hill).—Ditto.

LAW, CAR AND GENERAL INSURANCE CORPORATION.—ALBEMARLE ST.—We quite agree that there are circumstances connected with the collapse of this office which require close investigation, but it is too soon as yet to assume that there will be no public enquiry, though the action of the Government in the matter of the Law Guarantee does not encourage the expectation that there will be.

The Pageant of Progress

In this the Red-Letter year of the Empire, the all-absorbing theme is the wonderful progress recorded in every avenue of Trade and Commerce, and we are priding ourselves not a little in having enabled our clients to share in that prosperity in a very marked degree. That ours has been a triumphant march of progress is proved by the fact that we have paid away to our clients the enormous sum of

£496,530

Monumental Facts and Figures like these are far more expressive of the stupendous success of our Perfected System than columns of theory. The

National Share Exchange

has established a record in making the above sum for its clients. Is it not perfectly reasonable to argue that what has helped others will help you too, to make money?

Why not share in our Clients' Prosperity?

That our system embodies all that is best in the methods employed by the world's richest men in winning fortune, is one of the causes of our unbroken success as advisers, and the other is that prescience born of a lifelong experience, which for instance enabled us to advise our clients early in the year to buy Canadas when they were quoted under 200. To-day they stand at about 240, and have been ——————higher, a clear rise of 40 points!——————

There are equally Golden Opportunities To-day

Remember that every claim set forth by us is based upon the actual figures in our Ledgers and our cheque files which are freely open to your inspection. Bring your judgment to bear on the evidence

£6
May be Doubled & Trebled in One Operation.

Remember that our paramount standing in the City of London; our reputation of paying Cash on the stroke of the clock, are believed, our statements each and every word of them.

Remember too that thousands of men and women all over the country are reaping a golden harvest through our advices, and that the way is equally open for you.

Every Facility is Afforded for making Independent Investigation.

DO NOT LET A DAY GO BY WITHOUT LOOKING INTO THIS.

BEGIN TO-DAY BY TAKING THE FIRST STEP FREE OF ALL COST.

The Best Time for seizing Opportunity is NOW

Send This To-day

HOW A FEW POUNDS MAY FORM RUNGS IN THE LADDER OF SUCCESS.

To the Secretary,
The National Share Exchange, Ct. Winchester Street, London, E.C.

Please forward me gratis and post free your booklet, "The Modern System of Money-Making," and other literature which is a clear explanation of the methods which have enabled you to pay away the sum of £496,530.

J B. 3/6/11.

Name _____
(State whether Rev., Mr., Mrs., or Miss or Title.)

Address in Full _____

Date _____ (Please write distinctly)

(This and all our other advertisements are copyright.)

IS THE NUDE RUDE?

AN UNCONVENTIONAL VIEW OF A CONVENTIONAL SUBJECT.

By Percy Flage.

Although we are prone to forget it, it is a fact that we live on a whirling planet and things have been speeding up a bit of late. Only the other day the papers informed us of the suppression, by the Munich police, of interesting little parties at which the hostess was wont to appear dressed in nothing at all—not even the proverbial "Old pair of boots of the Dean's." Maud Allan is with us again; living statuary is a regular item of most music-hall programmes; and the voice of the protesting parson is heard in the land.

Where do we stand—and by "we," I mean you and I and all the readers of this ubiquitous paper—where do we stand as regards this question of the nude?

The clergy, of course, denounce it with bell, book and candle. To them it is thrice damned. Firstly, to borrow clerical phraseology, they believe the nude in itself to be indecent; secondly, they say it fires in the young passions what would otherwise merely smoulder; and, thirdly, that it degrades those who, as models, dancers, or poseurs, exhibit themselves to the public gaze. That, I believe, is their standpoint, or as near to it as the mind of the mere layman will ever be able to come.

Are they right? Come, let us reason together, for in the multitude of counsellors there is much wisdom. The first idea is a trifle interesting. In this it differs from most held by the patrons of Whitefields. Their ideas would usually lead one to believe that they had been invented to make conversation on wet nights in the ark. It is interesting, because the civilised peoples have held different views upon the subject at different times. For instance, I believe it is a fact that Cromwell made a grant to someone whose duty it was to remove offending features from public statues. The office has since fallen into disuse.

The Greeks and the Japs.

From the first, the ancient Greeks seem to have regarded the human form as perfectly chaste and entirely beautiful. Their young men took part in the Olympic games dressed in the "altogether," yet the idea that it was indecent does not seem to have entered the head of the most modest of Greek matrons. No one protested that it was no show for "a modest girl or right-minded lad," and the heavens did not fall. The explanation of this is that the Greeks were so accustomed to see the human body quite naked, or only very scantily clothed, that the phenomenon appeared natural and commonplace. In this they were at one with the modern Japanese, who indulge in mixed bathing, sans attire, without any thought of the indecency of the proceeding.

Bearing this in mind, it is amusing to know that a modern Greek who walked down the principal street of Athens in a state of Nature would most certainly be run in by the police. Of a truth, there is now a wide gulf fixed between the Hermes of Praxiteles and one of the "Boys of Bond Street."

Carlyle drew us a picture of Society without trousers; dare we imagine the Apollo Belvedere with trousers on? Both ideas land us in the ridiculous. Indeed, I can imagine nothing more ridiculous to an ancient Greek than the modern man, half bald, spectacles on nose, legs enclosed in stove-pipe trousers, and head majestically crowned with a three-and-ninepenny bowler.

The Christian Era.

In order to understand this change of outlook, it is necessary to go back to the conversion of Europe to the Christian faith. From the first, the Christian fathers looked upon the human body as a thing unutterably vile. According to them, the soul was a prince forced for a season to lodge in a filthy tenement, or, to use another metaphor, a graceful rider astride of an ungainly ass. In order to keep this poor beast well in hand, it was thought necessary to flog, starve and generally maltreat it. As for there being anything beautiful about it, the idea was too absurd. For a long time the mediæval artists refused to believe in the human body independently of its clothes. In fact, some of them painted Adam and Eve dressed in, what was then, the latest Paris fashions. A bold innovator at length depicted them in a state of Nature, but it was always remembered that this was also a state of sin. This idea prevailed even up to the time of Titian, for a glance at his "Sacred and Profane Love" will show that the only indication he gives as to the profanity of one of the ladies is that she is destitute of clothes. Right down to the time of the Renaissance, in depicting the nude a conveniently trained branch or shrub was considered absolutely necessary. But many of the Renaissance gentlemen were decidedly unorthodox, and scrupled not to commit in paint all manner of indecencies—or what were considered as such by the man in the street. Savonarola, the reforming monk, was eloquent enough to persuade some of the Florentine artists to make bonfires of such pictures, the possession of which nowadays would make their owners rich indeed.

The Puritan and the Æsthetic.

The conflict was not to end there. The game has continued to this present day. One school of thought—the Puritan—is eternally at war with another—the Æsthetic. At the moment the battle has lulled, but is carried on spasmodically in the form of guerilla warfare. The cheapness of literature and coloured prints, many of which ignore the Puritan convention altogether, is gradually bringing about a change in the Time Spirit. Time will work wonders. If we would but accustom our children to the sight of beautiful pictures and statuary, there would soon be no need of a censorship of either literature or art. "We needs must know the highest when we see it." It is all a matter of custom. The man who cannot see any beauty in the Venus de Milo is like Coleridge's bat, who would not believe in the sun because he himself was blind.

Honi Soit Qui May Y Pense.

As to there being anything immoral in a woman's posing as a living statue, I can only say that if there is, it is in the mind of the beholder. I well remember visiting such an exhibition with a friend who was considered a bit of a rake. This show had been supervised, pestered and censored by two or three Watch Committees, yet neither my friend nor myself saw anything calculated to produce blushes in the slightest degree. In fact, to us, the woman was as chaste as any marble statue. The old proverb, "Honi soit," still holds good.

Another friend tells me that in his youth it was for some time one of his chief delights to surreptitiously peruse an illustrated copy of Milton's "Paradise Lost." The only pleasure he found in doing so was owing to the fact that he had been strictly forbidden to do it, and for the life of him he couldn't see what there was to make such a fuss about. After a time the novelty wore off, and the book became as innocent in his eyes as the poems of Jane and Ann Taylor. I venture to think that in that story is to be found the complete problem and solution of this question of the nude.

As for the effect upon the character of the model or artist, it seems to me that whilst we have a Regent Street such as it is, and are content to set women and girls to heart-breaking tasks for a mere pittance, such objections can but appear hypocritical in the extreme.

CHELTENHAM'S CHAMPION.

THE NEW MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT TAKES UP THE CUDGELS.

We have received the following letter from Mr. Agg-Gardner, M.P.:—

> A suggestion of "prudery" was made against the Cheltenham Town Council, in a previous edition of your journal, in connection with the alleged refusal of the Town Council to permit the appearance of the portrait of a female songstress in evening dress, as an advertisement; and I was asked what I thought of the proceeding.
>
> May I reply that on enquiry I find the allegation has no foundation in fact? Neither the advertisement nor the prohibition has appeared in Cheltenham. *Salubritas et eruditeo* is the motto of our town, and the efforts of our Town Council being mainly directed to giving practical effect to this appropriate motto, prudery has no place in its deliberations.

Cheltenham evidently has a watchful and patriotic member.

PARENT COMPANY.

A Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, which states, inter alia, that The Subscription List will open on Monday, the 29th day of May, 1911, and close on or before Wednesday, the 31st day of May, 1911.

TURTLE CUP (1911), LIMITED.

(INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1908.)

Capital - - £60,000

Divided into 55,000 SIX per cent. PREFERRED ORDINARY SHARES of £1 each, and 100,000 DEFERRED SHARES of 1s. each.

The Preferred Shares are entitled to a 6 per cent. Non-Cumulative dividend and to one-half of the remaining net profits available for distribution by way of dividend in each year after the payment of such dividend of 6 per cent., and the Deferred Shares are entitled to the remaining one-half of the said profits available for dividend as aforesaid. In the event of winding up the said Preferred Shares are to be preferred as to capital, and after repayment of such capital the capital paid up or credited as paid up on the Deferred Shares is to be repaid, and any surplus assets are to be distributed as to one half amongst the holders of the Preferred Shares in proportion to their holdings, and as to the remaining one-half amongst the holders of the Deferred Shares in proportion to their holdings.

ISSUE OF 30,000 SIX per cent. PREFERRED ORDINARY SHARES of £1 each.

PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS:—1s. per Share on Application; 4s. per Share on Allotment; 5s. per Share Two Months after Allotment; 5s. per Share 1st January, 1912; 5s. per Share 1st May, 1912.

12,000 Preferred Shares are reserved for future issue, subject to the option thereon hereinafter mentioned.
The Directors and their friends have underwritten and desire an allotment of not less than 50 per cent. of this issue.

DIRECTORS.

The Hon. CYRIL W. PONSONBY, 53, Draycott Place, London, S.W. (*Director Apollinaris and Johannis, Limited.*)

REGINALD WALTER WILKIN, 11, Appold Street, Finsbury, E.C. (*Director David Wilkin and Co., Limited.*)

CHARLES TYRRELL WATKINS, Korcelah, West Heath Drive, Hampstead, N.W. (*Director Inventions and General Syndicate, Limited.*)

WILLIAM HERBERT SWIFT, Engineer, Effingham Lodge, Woking, Surrey.

THOMAS KERRISON BELLIS, 15, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, London, E.C. (*Managing Director.*)

BANKERS.

LONDON COUNTY AND WESTMINSTER BANK, LTD., 21, Lombard Street, E.C., and Branches.

SOLICITORS.

MAYO, ELDER AND CO., 10, Draper's Gardens, London, E.C.

BROKERS.

ZORN AND LEIGH-HUNT, 3 and 4, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.

AUDITORS.

FITZPATRICK, GRAHAM, GREENWOOD AND CO., C.A., 147, Leadenhall Street, E.C.

SECRETARY AND REGISTERED OFFICES

GEO. W. ASKEW, F.C.I.S., 14, St. Mary Axe, London, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed (*inter alia*) (1) To acquire as a going concern as from 1st January, 1911, the business carried on by Turtle Cup, Limited, as food purveyors; (2) To provide Working Capital to advertise and further develop the preparations dealt in by that Company and in particular "TURTLE CUP"; and (3) to acquire 12,000 shares of £1 each in a Company called The T. K. Bellis Turtle Company (1911), Limited, the total nominal capital of which is £15,000.

TURTLE CUP, which will be this Company's chief product, is the well-known concentrated food manufactured under a secret process, containing a considerable proportion of REAL TURTLE, the nutrient, sustaining and invigorating qualities of which have long been recognised by medical men by reason of its being rich in albuminous and stimulating nitrogenous constituents, phosphates, etc.

The *Lancet* has published an independent analysis, stating:—

> "'Turtle Cup' affords a convenient and ready way of preparing turtle soup. It consists of a square gelatin tablet which quickly dissolves in hot water. The resulting bouillon is pleasant to the taste, and the analysis of it showed the presence of nutritious elements setting aside the question of the value of gelatin. The mineral matter amounted to 10.50 per cent., the moisture to 25.90 per cent., and the total nitrogen to 7.48 per cent. Flavouring materials have evidently been added, but in quantities which do not disguise the much-esteemed turtle flavour. 'Turtle Cup' introduces a very palatable and nutritious soup for domestic use, and it is an advantage to be able to prepare it as required."

RAW MATERIAL.—The future supply of Turtle essential for the manufacture of "Turtle Cup" will be assured by this Company acquiring the capital to be issued in T. K. Bellis Turtle Company (1911), Limited, which Company has been formed to acquire all the assets and property and business now carried on by the T. K. Bellis Turtle Company, Limited, for importing and dealing with turtle and its products, and supplying same for this Company's preparations.

MANAGEMENT.—The Company has arranged with Mr. T. K. Bellis, the well-known importer of Turtle, to act as Managing Director.

PREMISES.—This Company will acquire for manufacturing purposes the lease of premises situate at 19-20, Goschen Street, Camberwell, and the T. K. Bellis Turtle Company (1911), Limited, will hold premises at 15, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C., with convenient storage accommodation at Leadenhall House, E.C.

CUSTOMERS.—Turtle Cup is retailed by (amongst others) the following well-known firms:—Army and Navy Co-operative Society, Limited; Junior Army and Navy Stores, Limited; Civil Service Supply Association, Limited; William Whiteley, Limited; Harrod's, Limited; John Barker, Limited; Pullman Company, Limited. Initial orders have also been received from The White Star Line. Retailers and other customers on the books of Turtle Cup, Limited, NOW NUMBER OVER TWO THOUSAND. Business is being opened up with Germany and the Continent, and arrangements have been made with firms of high repute for agencies in India, Australia and other Colonies.

ESTIMATED PROFITS.—Turtle Cup was introduced tentatively about 18 months ago by Turtle Cup, Limited, and has been well received by the public. One of the main objects for the formation of this Company is to provide Working Capital for the further development of the "Turtle Cup" business. The profits earned by companies owning similar preparations are very considerable, but this Company will have the advantage of having a comparatively small capital, and consequently substantial dividends should be earned. For trade reasons the Directors do not deem it advisable to publish figures or estimates of the profits likely to be earned by this Company, but this question has been carefully gone into by the Directors and their friends, who have evinced their satisfaction with the probable result and with the moderate capitalisation of this Company by desiring an allotment of a large proportion of the present issue of shares.

PURCHASE PRICE.—The purchase consideration payable by this Company for the assets and other property above referred to, and for 12,000 fully-paid shares of £1 each in the T. K. Bellis Turtle Company (1911) Limited, is £27,350, and is payable to the Inventions and General Syndicate, Limited, of 14, St. Mary's Axe, London, E.C. (hereinafter called the Syndicate), the Vendors and Promoters, as to £9,250 in cash (which amount includes £2,550 for stock and fixtures and £1,700 good trade Debtors), as to £13,000 in fully-paid Preferred Ordinary Shares in this Company of £1 each, and as to the balance of £5,000 (which amount is payable in respect of goodwill), in 100,000 fully-paid Deferred Shares in this Company of 1s. each. The Company also grants to the Syndicate the option to subscribe by itself or its nominees at par at any time prior to the 31st December, 1913, for the remaining 12,000 unissued Preferred Ordinary Shares.

A brokerage of 3d. per share will be paid by the Company on the shares applied for and allotted upon applications (other than applications on behalf or in relief of underwriters) bearing Brokers' stamps.

Application will be made to the committee of the Stock Exchange for a settlement in the shares of this Company.

Applications for shares should be made on the form accompanying the full Prospectus, upon the terms of which applications for shares will alone be considered, and sent to the Company's Bankers, together with a remittance for the amount of the deposit.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application for shares can be obtained from the Company's Bankers, Brokers, Solicitors, or at the Offices of the Company.

Dated 27th May, 1911.

No. 3. Mr. Micawber.

THE MOLASSINE DICKENS.

SOMETHING TURNS UP.

"Yes, my dear Sir," said Mr. Micawber, with a certain condescending roll in his voice, "this is indeed an occasion—in short a unique occasion. At last something has turned up. For many years—my dear Sir—I have been seeking an ideal Dog Food, and it has at last positively turned up. Look, my dear Sir, look here," he continued, diving his hand into the pocket of his brown surtout and bringing into the light of day a small square object. The "MOLASSINE DOG CAKE—a wonderful cake—my dear Sir—in short, a marvellous production. They are keeping my dog in fine form—in short—in the pink of condition and—if I may mention it—he never has worms now. I am telling all my friends about them. Everybody, my dear Sir, in short all the world, is talking about them."

Samples can be obtained from Corndealers and Grocers, or The Molassine Co., Ltd., Greenwich, S.E. City Office—28, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

LETTERS FROM JANE ANN.

BEING COMMUNICATIONS FROM A YOUNG PERSON TO HER FRIENDS AND RELATIONS.

BY MOORE ANKING.

SKIBBORIDGE NEUK;
SITHA, N.B.

DEAR MOTHER,—How are you by this time, old dear? I *was* glad to hear you got that Borough Council job, and only fancy you finding the alderman's love letters! You want to watch points now, mother, 'cause he's sure to pay you a certain amount of respekt, ain't he? Wish I had your chance. O but ain't some men hot stuff?

Here, mother, how was it they never taught me proper joggrafy at school? I go out and shove the pram up hills and things, and then I say to myself Thank goodness, it'll push itself going back. 'Stead of that when I'm not looking the blooming hills seem to turn round again. Makes it fair horsework getting home sometimes.

Would you bleeve it, mother, all I seem to remember is that part where it says in the book Mountain—a mountain consists of several lumps of earth all in one peace. That don't help a person much when it comes to pushing six stone of childhood in a pram with a gammy wheel. Straight, I bleeve I could get something out of the school people if my case was properly took up.

We nearly had a bad accident the other day. One of the girls was leaving to get married, that's what she told us, though of course as she said we needn't bleeve it unless we liked. Still we all wished her joy and then we sent for some fireworks so's she could have a proper send off.

The crackpot we sent to town went and dressed up in his best kilt, so's he'd look all right if he should meet his girl. Well, when he got to town I don't know how he managed it, but just as he was crossing the road a man who was working the lever went and trapped our josser's foot in the tramlines. It being a windy day lots of people were about, waiting I s'pose for something to turn up. P'raps you read about it in the papers.

All the trams got stopped, and the wimmen riding up above rushed inside so's they could be out of danger and see better. No end of bother and fuss.

Well, at last they got his foot out and sent him home by carrier, but of course he didn't bring no fireworks so we had to make shift best way we could. He must have got a bad twist for he walks now with his feet at a quarter to three, so you can gess. One thing, we don't pity him. We never got our money back, and besides he'd no business to go and do a thing like that before a lot of strangers. That wasn't what we give him our money for.

As for the girl that left us, she reckoned her johnny was a soldier, and they were going to be married on the strength of the ridgment, whatever that means. She showed me her john's photo once, and all I can say is any ridgment that gets this pair on its hands won't have any strength to give away. She told me her john always walked in front of the others and I said So he ought with a dial like that, be waste of money for 'em to keep a goat.

After that we didn't speak for a bit, but when she left I give her a nice pair of pink tie-ups, so that made everything right. She seemed quite pleased when she said Goodbye.

Sometimes I think I'm badly done by, with Bert only getting six-and-six a week for watching his end of the van. But then he does look human in a photo, don't he, mother, and if he was to get in a bank he mightn't do himself any good, not in the long run. Though he can run, can Bert, when he sees a pleeceman.

I keep writing nice letters to Aunt Margaret, but I don't seem to make much out of it. Father was the one to tell the tale, such a gift, seems a pity he took it with him.

Well now, Goodbye, mother dear, and don't get falling over the Borough Council buckets and things, not till you know how much you'll get for being laid up.

x x x x Your ever-loving daughter,
JANE ANN.

LOTINGA'S WEEKLY.
A Real Sporting Pictorial.
EVERY WEDNESDAY. ONE PENNY.

A VETERAN OF THE STARS AND STRIPES.

A WORD WITH CORONATION VISITORS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

During the forthcoming Coronation festivities there will be thousands of visitors from the United States of America. We sincerely hope they will have a good time. Perhaps some of their number while here on pleasure will devote a little of their leisure to the case of a man who helped to make their country what it is to-day, and who is now an inmate of a London workhouse. It is true that he should not be there, for the citizens of the States some number of years ago provided that all their veterans should receive a pension, large enough at any rate to keep body and soul together. It is, however, one thing to provide a pension, but it is entirely another thing to get the funds administered properly. It is because the officials have neglected to carry out the wishes of the citizens that we make this appeal.

We let the old man tell his own story :—

I went out to America in the Fall of 1860, embarking in the ship *Golden Light*. I then signed on an American barque bound for a southern port. Came back to Philadelphia. Then on to another barque, named the *Ben Hallet*, bound for New Orleans, where we arrived in the spring of 1861. The Rebel flag was then flying there. Most of our crew ran away, but I and another chap remained on board. Eventually a boarding-house keeper came on board, presented a revolver at our heads, and we were bound to go with him. When we got to his house we found that most of his men were joining the Lousianna Guards. We were unwilling to do this, and by arrangement with the captain we were released—the captain paying some money of course. We left light bound for Carthagena, where we took in a cargo for New York, arriving there about May, 1861. The authorities were then enlisting men for both the Army and the Navy. Me and my chum Cameron went to Peck Slip, where we had to pass an examination. We both passed as ordinary seamen, and were then sent to the receiving ship *North Carolina*, then lying off the Battery in New York Harbour. After some little time we were sent to the U.S. Frigate *Santee* under Post Captain Henry Eagle. We left New York in the fall of 1861, and went to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. We were not there long when we were ordered to Galveston, Texas, on the blockade, but prior to this we went to Virginia, and anchored off Fortress Monroe. While in Galveston Bay we captured a barque named the *Delta*, of Liverpool. She had saltpetre on board. We placed a prize crew on her and sent her to New York. We also captured several other vessels without putting up a fight. The first fight that we had was with a schooner-rigged vessel. We lost two men killed and nine wounded. I remember well that scurvy broke out amongst us, and we suffered very much. We were ordered to Boston, where I was paid off. This would be in September, 1862. I had only joined for twelve months, but the authorities kept me four months over that time. After a spell on the Lakes I enlisted in the 1st Michigan Vol. Artillery. This was in February, 1863—I was sent to Tennessee. I got to my battery at a place called Tyners Station. Shortly after joining it we made a move towards Chattanooga. I took part in the battle of Chickamauga. This lasted for two days. My battery lost 29 men and 56 horses in ten minutes. The Rebels drove us ten miles in two days. We fell back on Chattanooga. My battery was now put in reserve, and I and five more were told off to report to Head Quarters for orderly duty. I served about six months as orderly, when I was sent back to my command. Shortly after this the Rebel leader, General H. B. Hill, came into Chattanooga and surrendered to General Steadman. Then Lee surrendered to Grant, and the war was over. I was discharged on July 28th, 1865.

Such is the simple story of this veteran. We have ample evidence that his claim has been before the United States authorities. And there the matter rests.

HOW TO FURNISH A HOME.

Valuable Hints and Suggestions for those who, during the Season, are Furnishing or Re-Furnishing "Home." How to Purchase Cheaply and Well without Immediate Outlay.

ILLUSTRATED ALBUM TO BE SENT FREE TO "JOHN BULL" READERS.

It is certainly no use giving advice how to furnish the home well unless at the same time you can explain how to furnish economical.

Even the richest of us feel that the furniture we want is going to make a heavy demand upon our purses, and therefore eagerly welcome any suggestion that will obviate the apparently necessary huge cash outlay.

Everybody knows it is possible at certain establishments solely inaugurated for that purpose to obtain credit, but accepting this offer many will only too quickly find that the articles they have secured are really credit goods valuable only for ornament and not for use.

The common-sense man or woman, whilst certainly anxious to extend payment over a period, is not anxious to accept anything else but the best goods for the new home they are making or the house they are re-furnishing.

An interesting book on furniture which has just been published, and which, by the way, is really a magnificent production, at last explains how it is possible for such common-sense people to obtain what they desire—really good furniture that will not only look well, but wear well, and yet have the advantage of deferring payment over a period.

This book, copies of which may be obtained free for the asking, is issued by a cash house of furnishers, who have adopted a system whereby their customers may adopt a system of payment over a period whilst choosing their articles at cash prices, and simply adding 5 per cent. to the total cost for the extra convenience.

This is surely a most equitable system, providing the articles of furniture themselves are satisfactory. When we say it is Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander, of 252-256, Tottenham Court Road, who lay open this offer to every reader of JOHN BULL, it will be realised that there is a solid guarantee of "good goods."

Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander, with their enormous business and huge capital, are able to purchase in any market the best furniture made, and at such prices as will enable them to retail it to their customers at distinctly reasonable prices.

If you send for a copy of their furniture album and glance through its pages, you will see that every article is priced at a figure commensurate with its actual value.

A visit to the Wolfe and Hollander showrooms will more fully convince you on this question of value, for there you will find every article marked in cash figures, and whether you desire to pay cash or not, you choose your articles at the marked figure. Should you desire to defer payments your total extra cost is 5 per cent. or 1s. in the £.

Let us take an actual example. You have taken a cosy cottage in Suburbia, and you have reckoned out that £50 in the amount of furniture you will require, but you desire to spread payments over a period.

Well, the total cost of your furniture, instead of being £50, is £55, the first payment you are asked to make is 10 per cent., or actually £5 5s., the balance you can arrange to pay exactly as suits your convenience.

That is the whole of the Wolfe and Hollander system, and nothing could be fairer or more just.

You may of course choose your articles from the splendidly illustrated catalogue, and have the same sent carriage paid to any spot in the United Kingdom, or better still, you may call at the showrooms, 252-256, Tottenham Court Road, W.C., and examine the actual articles themselves.

Floor upon floor of everything conceivable in furniture will give you a splendid selection from which to choose, and should you have any special out of the ordinary ideas, you will find your wants will be quickly satisfied.

We suggest you should send for the Wolfe and Hollander furniture album to-day. It is sufficient to address a letter to Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander, 252-256, Tottenham Court Road, W.C., to secure a copy gratis and post paid.

The directors, however, would much prefer that you should call, because by so doing you may appreciate what they mean when they state they offer best value in furniture upon the most simple system of deferred payments.

You are invited to call at any time and to make a long tour of inspection. Whether you decide to purchase or not your visit will be welcomed. If you cannot call, however, write for the book or 'phone for same to 1850 Gerrard or 14299 Central. Telegrams: "Wolfhol, London."

IMAGINARY INTERVIEW.

DR. LUCIUS BRAND.

By WALTER MOORE.

When the great and glorious news reached me that Dr. Lucius K. Brand, of Chicago, had arrived in London, and taken up his quarters at a certain hotel, I made my way with all speed to the fortunate hostelry upon which the Professor had bestowed his patronage, anxious to see the man who threatens, through his great discovery, to revolutionise the diet of the civilised world, and, incidentally, to bring about the utter extinction of all those industries which flourish in consequence of the lamentable fact that the inner man of frail humanity craves for food.

I thoughtfully timed myself to arrive at the Professor's hotel at the luncheon hour.

"Dr. Lucius K. Brand, I believe?" I murmured.

"Of Shecawgo," added the Doctor. "That's me. What's *your* label?"

"My name, I am sorry to say, is too obscure to have reached so far as your Western Metropolis," I replied; "but I have the honour to represent JOHN BULL, the reflected fame of which is more than sufficient to compensate for my personal unimportance."

"I guess you wanter know all about my new Food," observed the Doctor, making short work of a slice of turbot.

"That is why I have broken in upon you at this unseemly hour," I confessed, taking my seat at the table and absent-mindedly spreading a serviette across my knees.

"Waal, it's a gi-gantic discovery, siree. It's the next biggest thing to the discovery of Amurrica. And it's goin' to jest lick creation," added the Doctor enthusiastically.

"Provided, of course, that creation will agree to lick it," I observed casually. "But what exactly is the nature of your discovery?"

"Waal, it's like this," began the Doctor, starting on the entree; "the human system is threaded with millions upon millions of minute capillary blood vessels, the duty of which is to carry to the cells which build up the body, and of which the body is made, a constant supply of fresh building material, which, originally taken into the stomach in the form of food, is there digested and converted into chyle."

"Yes, yes," I murmured, toying with a soup spoon and glancing sideways at a passing waiter.

"But," continued the Doctor, warming to his work, "the food that mankind are accustomed to eat is a coarse texture, and of such an insoluble nature that 99 per cent. of it passes through and out of the digestive system without effect."

"Dear me!" I exclaimed, as he reached for more bread.

"You see," he pursued, "this coarseness of texture and insolubility make it impossible for the food to be converted into a stream thin enough to flow through the capillaries, and so to the cells. I have discovered a liquid which is not only a perfect food and capable of supplying all the physical needs of man, but possesses also the marvellous property of rendering soluble those coarse and hitherto insoluble foods which mankind rely upon to-day. I've got some right here," added the Doctor, drawing a medicine bottle from one of his pockets. "Taste it."

"Is it a good appetiser?" I asked, "because, if so, I don't need one at the moment. I am sharp set enough as it is." And I fingered the menu-card carelessly.

Anyhow, I tasted it.

"That is nothing new to me," I remarked. "I have tasted the Elixir under many aliases. Sometimes it has borne the prefix 'Scotch,' and sometimes 'Irish.'"

"That familiar flavour has been added for commercial reasons. It will assure the Elixir an enormous sale."

"There is one point about it that puzzles me," I observed, rising sorrowfully, seeing the Doctor had finished the dessert; "and that is, why, if the food does all that you claim for it, you indulge yourself with such a useful lunch of coarse-fibred and insoluble viands."

"It is not easy to break the habits of a lifetime," he said sententiously. "I guess I'm going to enjoy myself for a few weeks longer. As a matter of fact, I'm not sure your British fare is so darned coarse-fibred and insoluble as that of God's own country."

"I'm glad to hear that," I said; "and, what's more, I fancy I shall stick to it."

A little later, as I munched my humble crust of bread and cheese, it was borne in upon me that man does not live by the solubility of food alone. There is also something in flavour.

The new White Star triple-screw steamer "Olympic," 45,000 tons, the largest vessel in the world.
Supreme Luxury
Typical evidence of the perfect equipment of the new giant "floating palace" is the presence on board of
ROSS'S
Belfast Dry
Ginger Ale
For many years "Ross" has been indispensable to the luxurious service enjoyed on all White Star liners. Its distinctive qualities result from the continued use of only the finest ingredients and the personal supervision of the Ross family.
"Ross" combines perfectly with whisky, brandy or gin. Ross's "Royal Belfast" Soda Water has the same natural blending excellence.
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ROSS'S
PALE DRY
GINGER ALE
BELFAST

The John Bull League.

A REVIEW OF RECENT WORK.

BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Now that the pressure of work incidental to the active campaign which has been carried on during the past few months is over, and the summer is upon us, with its very necessary relaxation of effort, it may be an opportunte moment to review the work of the League. The exhaustive Annual Report, which was issued early in the year, dealt at length with the activities of the various branches up to the end of December last, since which date much solid progress has been made, with the result that those principally concerned are well entitled to a few weeks' comparative rest. As we said at the time the Report was issued, a perusal of its contents must convince the most sceptical that the League has come to stay, and is rapidly taking its place in the foremost ranks of progressive movements, possessing as it does the advantage of not being tied down by any Party tradition or hidebound conventionalities. The issue of this Report would seem to have stimulated to a remarkable degree the various branches in all parts of the country, with the result that we are in a position to record an ever-growing membership and the opening up of new and important districts.

Dealing first of all with the work of the President, we were severely handicapped at the commencement of the year by his serious illness, which necessitated the postponement of several important engagements. As soon as he was restored to health, however, he lost no time in resuming the active part he has always taken in the campaign, and in February last addressed two crowded meetings in Scotland, on the 24th at the Gilfallan Hall, Dundee, and the following evening at the Synod Hall, Edinburgh. The last was amongst the most encouraging demonstrations which have yet been organised, and has resulted in the formation of a powerful and exceptionally enthusiastic branch in the Scottish capital. Coming South, the President next visited Leeds, where a branch, formed only in November last, is now in numbers and influence one of the most important in the country. Its success has in no small measure been due to the splendid efforts of the local chairman, Mr. W. B. Russell, who, we regret to record, is about to leave us for Australia. In this work he has been ably supported by the committee and officers, who assembled on Monday, May 22nd, to bid him farewell, when they took advantage of the occasion to present him with a well-merited token of their esteem. Following the great meeting at the Leeds Town Hall, the President next visited Leicester, where the branch had already become a power. And then to the Far West, where at the Guildhall, Plymouth, was held one more mighty meeting, just as enthusiastic and well organised as those which had preceded it.

In addition to these meetings, a series of lectures on Army Adminstration have been delivered by ex-Lieut. Allan Sutor at Birmingham, Plymouth, Liverpool, Leicester, Portsmouth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, West Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, and Leeds, and Mr. Sutor also supported the President at the Dundee and Edinburgh meetings above referred to.

Nor have the older branches been idle. Manchester, under the leadership of that virile champion of the people, Councillor Ross Clyne, has held several important meetings. As was to be expected, we at first encountered some opposition and ridicule at the hands of the municipal authorities, but when it was found that the local branch was prepared to tackle efficiently questions of great public interest and to command the support of large audiences, and it was seen that we were enlisting the active support of prominent members of the City Council, a change came o'er the scene. Official recognition of the work of the League is to be found in the records of the Council, and on more than one occasion we have been indebted to the Lord Mayor for personally bringing forward resolutions which have been passed at various meetings we have organised in the district. Birmingham, the pioneer branch, too, has taken an active part during the past few months. Recognising the fact that one of the most needed reforms was the extension of hours during which workmen's tickets were available on the tramcars, it organised an monster petition to the Corporation, which we have every reason to anticipate will, supported as it was by an enormous number of signatures and enthusiastically adopted at several important public meetings, have the most beneficial results. Glasgow, one of the earliest centres to be visited by the President, has recently begun to take its proper place amongst the most active and influential branches in the kingdom. As a result of the meeting addressed by Mr. C. L. Kay, of the Birmingham centre, a thorough and systematic scheme of organisation has been evolved, a representative Committee elected, and in the autumn a very active programme will be carried out. Mr. Kay has not, however, confined his energies on our behalf to Glasgow, but has addressed meetings in Sheffield, Leeds, Plymouth, and Bristol.

And now for the next two or three months we shall be enjoying a comparatively quiet time, whilst the President is hammering away at the principles of our League in the House of Commons.

The World's Daily Delicacy

From 1837 to 1911

Bird's Custard

Crowns every meal with enjoyment.

Children revel in it: you do right to indulge their liking for this creamy wholesome dainty, with its rich store of nutriment.

☞ *Insist on BIRD'S Custard, and take no risk. No substitute can be so pure or so wholesome.*

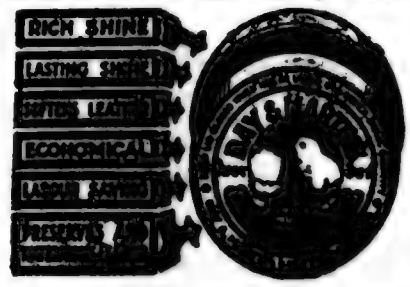
BOOT POLISH FREE!

A liberal supply of Day & Martin's splendid polish which saves time and money.

If you have not yet accepted a free supply of the wonderful Day and Martin "six-point superiority" Boot Polish, which preserves as well as polishes boots and shoes, you should send your name and address (a postcard will do) as directed below.

The free supply sent you will enable you to realise that Day and Martin's Boot Polish is most economical in use and needs only the least exertion to make the oldest footwear look like new. It never eats into the leather; in fact doubles the life of your boots and shoes. You tradesman will be certain to stock Day and Martin's Boot Polish in tins at 3d., 4d., and 6d., black or brown. Refuse all substitutes, for there is nothing "just as good" as the polish made by this famous firm.

Day & Martin's Boot Polish possesses as shown in the illustration six-point superiority.



Send your application for your free trial supply direct to Room 24a, Day and Martin's, Borough Road, London, S.E. Please state whether you desire black or brown polish when writing.

"MRS. BULL."

EVERY TUESDAY. ONE PENNY.

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. CLEMENT SCOTT.

"THE ONLY WAY."

Richer, riper, rarer in effect—Martin Havey the student, Martin Harvey the worker, Martin Harvey the actor, brings back to us in London again his exceptionally beautiful and imaginative performance of Sydney Carton, gleaned from the Charles Dickens story, "A Tale of Two Cities." The welcome accorded to Mr. Harvey at the Lyceum Theatre when he first made his appearance as the inspired "dreamer of dreams" the other evening, made one think of the days when Irving ruled supreme at the old playhouse, and when Martin Harvey, but little more than a lad, belonged to the dead player's company, merely as one of its members. Since then, Mr. Harvey has worked like a true-born lover of his art to earn the laurels that rest so easily on his thoughtful brow, and never failed to win for himself the golden opinions of all the numerous counties he has visited. In "The Only Way," Martin Harvey is seen in one of his very finest interpretations; his melodious voice rings out resonantly, echoing and re-echoing round and round the theatre, waking up scenes that it has become the habit of the modern actor as a rule to depress, and putting new life into a story which, but for the fire and skill of Mr. Harvey's acting, might now be nothing but a forgotten martyr's grave of dust and ashes. In the sympathetic *role* of Mimi, Miss N. de Silva once more brings tears to dry eyes, and for the remainder of the large and varied company, nothing but praise can be said.

THE VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

It is always pleasant to enjoy a jolly good laugh, and "Baby Mine" is just one of those genuinely comic farces which set your sides aching with fun. Transferred from the Criterion Theatre, where Margaret Mayo's three full acts of brilliantly ingenious plot, and extraordinarily witty lines, have already been amusing countless numbers for some time past, "Baby Mine" has now settled down in the Strand, and despite the heat wave, the popularity of the piece is still as great as ever. And can you marvel that it should be so? Isn't Weedon Grossmith too comical a figure as the wretched husband? Imagine a man being doomed to visit homes for destitute children, steal infants, and become a confirmed baby snatcher, so that the woman he has innocently compromised may lure her jealous spouse home again by wiring to say she has presented him with a son and heir. Better farce acting on the part of Mr. Grossmith it would be impossible to find. He is so intensely serious over the whole business, and herein, of course, lies the whole of the cunning. But how many players are gifted with this power to be funny seriously—nay, at some moments even tragically funny? I can only think of two on the English stage at this moment—the one is Charles Hawtrey, the other Weedon Grossmith. Miss Iris Hoey—fresh and pretty as a sweet young rose—has vastly improved as the wilful and fascinating little Zoe; but she has still, if I may venture to say so, the bad habit of dropping her voice at the end of her sentences and so letting the next speaker's line—which should cap hers—lose much of its effect. But I mustn't complain. The dialogue of "Baby Mine" is so excellent, the surprises so wildly exciting, and the whole idea so clever, that to visit the Vaudeville Theatre makes playgoing joyous.

KINGSWAY THEATRE.

Surely with her beauty, and strong individuality, Madame Lydia Yavorska can find a play to suit her better than Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler"—a play that calls so essentially for natural acting—as all the Norwegian author's works do? Madame Yavorska is artificial, she is stagey, and inclined to be over-melodramatic. Hedda Gabler is not at all this kind of a character. Lydia Yavorska has a certain amount of talent as an actress, but it is utterly misdirected when turned towards the Ibsen school.

THE NEW THEATRE'S MANAGER.

Although still not thoroughly what you can call robust in health, it is happy news to know that Mr. Arthur Garrett, manager for Mr. and Mrs. Fred Terry, is sufficiently well enough to return to his duties. Mr. Garrett has had a nasty few months of it, and I am certain all his numerous friends will be delighted to see him back at his post once more. It is wonderful what the ozone-laden air of Margate can do in the health-restoring line.

FOOD PURITY.

A recent issue of *Truth* contains an interesting article on the subject of purity of food supplies. In reviewing the methods of manufacture adopted in the St. Ivel factories, that journal says: "Undoubtedly if all articles of food were as carefully manufactured and as exactly what they represented themselves to be as those which I have passed under review, the world would be much healthier, wealthier and wiser. The day may come when all foods are prepared under conditions as hygienically perfect as those which are so scrupulously maintained in the St. Ivel factories and warehouses. That day is not yet. Still, year by year Science is becoming more and more the handmaid of diet, telling us what food we should eat, and telling the manufacturer how that food should be prepared. Unfortunately, it is not every manufacturer who listens to the biddings of Science, and does his best to fulfil her mandates.

"Fortunately, the manufacturer who does so usually meets with the reward he seeks. Excellence of produce is the usual result of obedience to the scientific behest, and excellence of produce, as in the case of the St. Ivel preparations, creates demand. It is a lesson which, sooner or later, all manufacturers of articles of food will need to learn for themselves, and if they neglect it, and find themselves distanced in the race for popular appreciation by those wiser than themselves, they will only have themselves to blame. The success which has attended the scientific methods of the manufacturers of the St. Ive preparations is quite sufficient to show which way the wind of public estimation is blownig. The public wants its food pure, and it wants its food good, and when it realises that any particular food is both pure and good it will insist upon having it."

It would be difficult to give a more convincing tribute o the perfection of St. Ivel manufacturing arrangements, but on the subject of the dietetic value of St. Ivel (Lactic) Cheese *Truth* is even more emphatic. "Everything which is humanly possible has been done to secure its perfect purity," says *Truth*, "and the whole process of manufacture from milk to cheese has taken place under ideal conditions. It will be seen, therefore, that considered only as a cheese, as the ideally constituted nourishment for body and brain, St. Ivel Lactic Cheese answers every test in manufacture which modern science demands for hygienically perfect production.

"Here, perhaps, it may as well be mentioned that St. Ivel Lactic Cheese has those qualities of palatability which are also necessary in the perfect food. Its delicate Cheddar flavour makes of it a *bonne bouche* to the most fastidious palate. Nor can the charge so often made in regard to the indigestibility of cheese be levelled against it.

"Above and beyond all these particular qualities, which may be shared in greater or lesser degree by any cheese upon the production of which the same care and attention are lavished, there is one in which St. Ivel Lactic Cheese stands alone and unapproachable. It is more than a mere nutrient. It is an active agent in the promotion of health and longevity, and it is this fact which entitles its claims to the closest consideration which it is possible to give them."

For Men of Taste.

The handkerchief with the unqualified Colour Guarantee: "*We agree to give you, free of all cost, half-a-dozen Pyramid Handkerchiefs for every one you send to us that has lost its colour in the laundry.*"

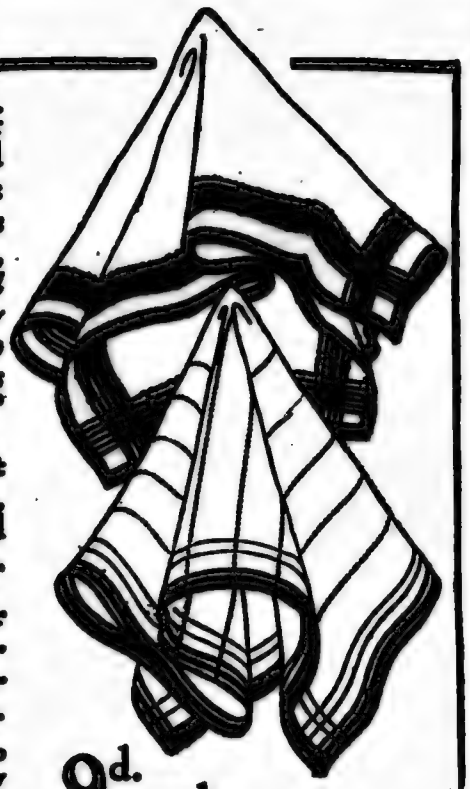
"Pyramids" are soft and fine in texture, pleasant to use—and unusually durable.

Tasteful border designs and colourings, and in ALL-WHITE patterns.

Ask your outfitter to show you. If any difficulty write to

PYRAMID, Dept. 4, 132 Cheapside, London, E.C.

124

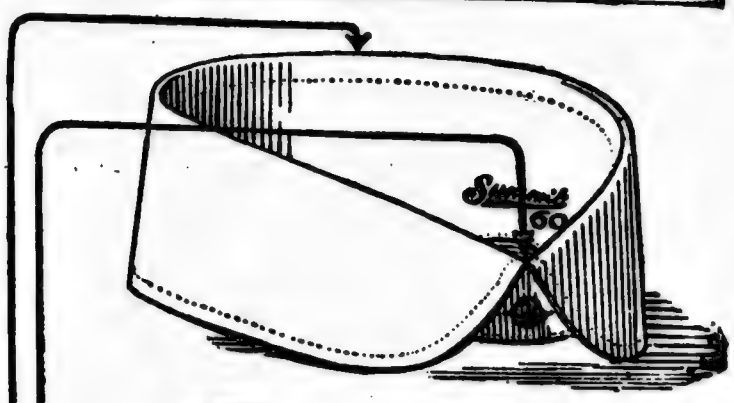


9d. each

4/3 HALF-DOZEN

Sample Handkerchief 9d. post free.

PYRAMID HANDKERCHIEFS



Summit shape 60

Low enough in front for COMFORT - High enough at back to appear above coat collar

Sample Collar & Booklet 6½d

6 for 3/-

Please address all applications to 28 Nicholl Square, E.C.

Austin Reed Ltd

13 Fenchurch St. · 5 St. Mary Axe

137a Cheapside, E.C. 113 Regent St., W.

THE "DANDY" GOLF BALL

is unequalled for resilience and dependability at the price. It is a ball that helps your game. It is good for the drive, and true on the green. The core is a durable rubber, and the cover and paint are both excellently staunch in their resistance against splitting and cracking. Every one of the balls are guaranteed, and the marvellous price is each, 10½D.

Carriage paid on any quantity in the British Isles.

Selfridge & Co., Ltd.,

Oxford Street, London, W.

Boys & Girls Leaving School

May ensure profitable careers in the Civil Service or in Business by joining the most successful College in the world.

Over 50,000 students successful and placed into good positions by the College.

Day and Evening Classes.
Tuition by Post direct to the Home.
Write to-day for free Illustrated Prospectus No. 19.

CLARK'S COLLEGE, Ltd.

The Civil Service and Business University of London.
1, 2, & 3, CHANCERY LANE, London, W.C.
(*Established* 1880).

Harrods

Footwear for Gentlemen is always Reliable

THE "TRUEFIT" BOOT

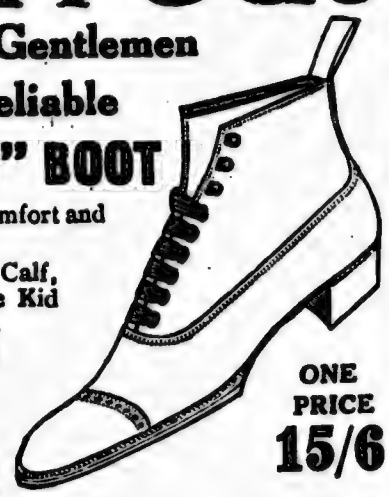
An excellent model for comfort and smartness.

Made in Brown Willow Calf, Box Calf (to lace), Glace Kid (lace or button).

SHAPES: Narrow and Broad.

Stocked in Half-sizes,

A large and varied selection of fashionable footwear at attractive prices.



ONE PRICE 15/6

THE "ALTHORP" SHOE.

21/- per pair.

Brogued West-End design in patent leather and brown calf. An exceedingly smart and fashionable shoe, cut and made by skilled workmen. Ranging in Half-sizes.

Althorp boots and shoes are stocked in 24 makes.

HARRODS Ltd. (RICHARD BURBIDGE Managing Director) LONDON, S.W.

BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—
Is the Government in a "compromising" situation?
When the Imperial Conference decided to sit in secret, was the door "slammed"?
Isn't Britain well off for "paper" boats?
Aren't aviators too fond of "coming down on people"?
Won't payment of councillors mean our getting a "job lot"?
Wasn't "The Mayfly" rather a dubious name?
Why doesn't Martin Harvey call it "The Only *Play*"?
Won't "paper-bag cookery" put saucepan-makers in a stew?
Does the Water Board require filtering?
Is the Coronation going to be "all jam"?

Japan wishes to join the World Peace League. How big a piece does she want?

A machine which measures intellects has been invented. Here's a chance to get a capable Civil Service.

The journalist who advertised in the *Mail* for a post as secretary to a politician, saying he "had published heaps of fiction," is evidently a humorist.

The Sultan of Turkey was much alarmed when attacked recently by Kurds. He evidently disliked their whey.

A doctor informs us that flute playing is good for consumptives. It enables them to get a cheap blow on the C.

We hear of advertisements on water carts. A novel way to spout their wares.

A woman was recently sentenced for throwing four kittens out of the window. She deserved the cat.

Bayes, Yorkshire's new bowler, is a fisherman by calling. Just the man for a smack and a catch.

The first play ever performed on a staircase was recently given at Stafford House. Pantomimes on ordinary staircases at 2 a.m. are well known.

We are disappointed not to find Lord Northcliffe's name among the list of Standard Bearers at the Coronation.

There is an island for sale in Scotland. Will anything surrounded by water appeal to the Scot?

When photographs in colour are possible for all, even then many will be plain.

"Cherries at twelve shillings a pound," we read. But look at the cherry bobs you get!

"Here is my testimonial," said a man at Marlborough Street; and the magistrate said it only certified that the man had had a bath. But it was a clean record.

Capetown had no newspapers recently, owing to a strike. Lucky town!

"Garter for Prince of Wales," we read. Isn't he old enough for socks?

"There is nothing so much like the human brain as a walnut," said a doctor at a recent inquest. No wonder so many are cracked.

"Bulldog which went to mothers' meetings," says a *Mirror* headline. It wasn't ours.

Owing to the growth of food products, the *Mail* describes Ireland as "A Second Denmark." May we expect some prosperous Hamlets?

We are told that the Germans are eating more fish. More cod.

The *Morning Post* airship has got the double knock.

"Thirty lambs worried," says a heading. Did they smell the mint?

New Zealand has a scheme by which prisoners are put to the work of tree-planting. Over here the planting is done before capture.

Golfers' headgear, it is stated, is too thick. But it suits their language.

A contemporary informs us that a rook is bare-faced. No news to the farmer.

A correspondent named George King considers that he and his namesakes should have some special gift this year. We fear they must wait till they are seventy before getting their crowns.

JOHN BULL'S BIOSCOPE.

A series of Bioscope views depicting how JOHN BULL and *Mrs. Bull* are produced, is being shown in various towns and cities on the cinematograph of the "John Bull Entertainment." To-day (Thursday) and on Friday the car will be in Southampton (Kingsland Square); Saturday, Eastleigh (Fair Ground, High Street); Monday, Winchester; Tuesday, Romsey (Fair Field); Wednesday, Lyndhurst; and readers and their friends should not fail to see these well-known periodicals "in the making."

Claims that are Warranted

"John Bull" satisfies "himself"

The following and hundreds of similar letters have been examined and are guaranteed genuine by "John Bull."

These letters are from doctors and nurses. As unsolicited testimonials they are unique. As proof of merit, they demonstrate to the world that Hall's Wine is the world's greatest health restorative—that it does all that the proprietors claim for it.

No. 1077.
"I have found Hall's Wine most beneficial for my nerves, and can also recommend it as a good tonic for Anæmia."

No. 957.
"I was suffering from an attack of Neuralgia in the face and neck, and am pleased to say that Hall's Wine has given me immense relief."

No. 826.
"After being completely run down through overwork, I took three bottles of Hall's Wine, and the effect on me was simply marvellous. I have been 'knocked out' through overwork before, but have never had such a complete and rapid recovery."

No. 955.
"I have pleasure in testifying to the immense benefit that I have derived from taking Hall's Wine. I was fearfully run down from overwork, and feeling very heavy and out of sorts. After taking one bottle I felt quite my old self again, and mentally bright as well."

No. 1099.
"I find Hall's Wine a very good pick-me-up and always recommend it to delicate patients. It is very nutritious and pleasant to take."

No. 983.
"I cannot tell the amount of good Hall's Wine has done for me, whenever I am at all run down. I take it with the greatest possible benefit to myself, and I can recommend it with the greatest confidence to anyone who requires a powerful and restorative tonic."

No. 1003.
"I have been through a serious illness, and am glad to say that Hall's Wine acted as a most marvellous restorative, and will enable me to go back to my work much sooner than I expected."

No. 961.
"Being very 'run down' after several trying cases, I took a bottle of Hall's Wine, and received the greatest benefit from it. I shall continue the Wine when necessary."

No. 867.
"Continuous night duty and heavy work leaves me very run down, but after a few glasses of Hall's Wine, I rapidly pick up. I consider that if the Wine is taken according to directions on the bottle there is nothing to equal it."

No. 1090.
"I have much pleasure in testifying to the exceptional merit of Hall's Wine. As a Restorative and Tonic it is quite excellent, and I shall recommend it to my patients."

No. 2002.
"After taking a bottle of Hall's Wine, I feel much better, brighter, and stronger, and my appetite is wonderfully improved. I shall recommend it to my patients, and I feel sure they must derive benefit from the use of Hall's Wine."

No. 974.
"I had a really bad cold, and having to attend an urgent case, I bought a bottle of Hall's Wine, and I can honestly say that never has a cold left me so quickly. I am sincerely grateful for having found such a remedy, and shall not hesitate to recommend it."

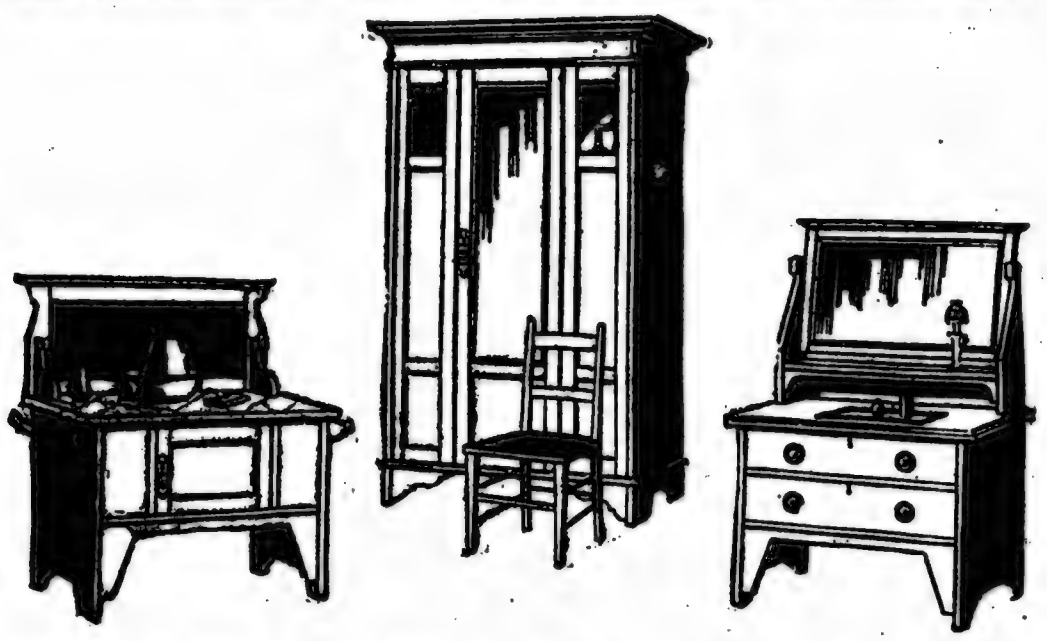
The action of Hall's Wine is definite and certain. It revitalises exhausted nerve cells and increases nerve force. Neuralgia, sleeplessness, brain fag and depression are cured by its use. Hall's wine replenishes the blood with rich red corpuscles and restores the strength and brightness of glorious health. Health protection against chills, colds, coughs and influenza is best secured by taking Hall's Wine.

TASTE, QUALITY and ECONOMY

are three most important characteristics of our furniture.

We have a large staff of Furnishing Experts who are always at your service, both to advise you as regards decorating and furnishing.

Our stock is one of the largest and finest and no other house can offer a better selection. We cordially invite a visit of inspection of our model furnished rooms and stock.



Large size Bedroom Suite in fumed oak. This is a new design and has been constructed to obtain plenty of accommodation **£8 8 0**

FURNISH OUT OF INCOME.

Our system of furnishing out of income is the fairest and most equitable ever devised. All goods supplied are marked at cash prices. NO deposit is required, and the payments if desired may be extended over one, two or three years at the purchaser's option, and we wish specially to point out that we add no interest or make any extra charge whatsoever.

As a special inducement to Country Customers to visit our Showrooms, we will pay their fares to Town on all orders of £30 and upwards.

Country Orders packed free and carriage paid. Five per cent. discount for cash.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE ON APPLICATION.

Midland Furnishing Co., Ltd.

15, 17, 19, 21 & 23, Southampton Row,

HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

Six doors from the Holborn Restaurant and Holborn Station (G.N., P. & B. Rly.), 1 minute from British Museum Station (Central London Railway), and 3 minutes from Oxford Street.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE is increasing steadily. In future, we will disregard any letter which is not duly authenticated with name and address, which may be given in strict confidence.

FORWARDING LETTERS, ETC.—Our correspondence is growing so enormously that we have to discourage all idea of PUTTING OUR READERS INTO COMMUNICATION WITH ONE ANOTHER. *If the practice grew, we should want an extra staff of clerks, fresh offices, and Jim Crow to keep the peace.*

"DUSTY MILLER."—The name and address of the Hon. Local Secretary of the *Hull Branch of the John Bull League* is Mr. W. E. Petty, 96, Woodcock Street, Newington, Hull.

A. S. (Peckham) wishes to know *whether*, now that *M.P.*'s are to be paid, they *may be dismissed* "if they do not keep their election promises." We will bear the point in mind.

H. L. T. (a Solicitor of the Borough) takes us severely to task for our recent censures upon *Judge Willis*. This should count for righteousness to Mr. H. L. T. the next time he comes before His Honour.

MESSRS. LUCK AND CO. (Bedford) write, apropos of our paragraph regarding one of their *transactions with a servant girl*, that they sold the article to the girl direct, and that the man who called and took it away from her had no authority from them. They say they have taken out a warrant against this individual, and deny that they ever threatened the girl. On the other hand, the girl adheres to her statement that the man who booked the order was identical with the individual who took away the goods, and repeats that Lucks did threaten her with a warrant.

REV. S. C. T. (Hampstead) says "there is no more prolific producer of disease than the *dust of dried refuse*, yet our sanitary authorities persist in their antiquated methods of removing it in more or less open carts." He thinks every householder should be compelled to provide himself with a lidded box of a shape suitable for collection.

A. C. (Sheffield) answered an advertisement of "*Coronation free gifts*" and sent 4d. "to cover cost of postage, packing, etc." of "the Coronation smoker's set" which *apparently* consisted of a briar pipe, a tin of tobacco and a pouch. All he received was a doll's clay pipe less than 2 ins. long, a pouch 1½ ins. long, and a tiny empty box. The pouch was inscribed "Don't be greedy," but the firm evidently is.

"SPORTSMAN" (Margate) has received an intimation from the Postmaster-General that *James Wilton, football accountant*, Middelburg, received his letter, but this does not bring him any nearer to a settlement of his claims.

W. G. L. (Harringay).—Send us full details of the "*trading stamp octopus*" and we will have a slash at its tentacles.

"GUARANTEE" (Perth.)—Another victim. He just dropped in. Well R.I.P.

A. G. J. H. warns emigrants not to travel *to Australia by the German line*, "for it is nothing but a swindle from beginning to end; we are treated like dogs, the open berths are awful; about 200 of us all sleep together in one big open room; we have one electric fan between us; we have had no clean ticks for our beds since we started; the food is worse than an Englishman would throw in a dustbin. Well, we stuck this as long as we could, and then some of us went to complain of the bad food; all the sympathy we got was: 'Why don't we travel by our own ships if we don't like it?' He is quite correct there; we ought to have done, but since we complained to him of the food it has been worse than ever. Stick to the old Flag whether on sea or land." We will.

T. J. W. (Swansea) wants to know why the *tin-plate workers* there do not demand their railway fares from their employers. He says that by submitting to excessive hours and other forms of oppression, they cause suffering to present and future workers. He considers them very bad Trade Unionists.

R. C. (West Ealing) defends the *managements of music-halls* for not announcing the non-appearance of stars. He thinks the artistes are to blame for not notifying their absence in time. It would, however, be quite easy to keep a supply of emergency posters to exhibit whenever Miss Fewclowes telegraphs that she has an engagement to see a man about a dog.

R. F. M. W. (Edinburgh) sends us the statement of a shipping firm that *Chinese sailors* are not employed for economy, but because they are more sober and work more efficiently than Englishmen. But could they be trusted equally at a pinch?

A. S. (Merton) is a poor man who has been out of employment for a long time, and has four young children to maintain. He was therefore an appropriate victim for *Emanuel and Co., Clapham Road*, and 332, *Kennington Park Road*, who practise the instalment trick, only delivering goods after all the instalments have been paid. If the police are too busy looking after bookmakers, surely someone ought to form a society to protect the poor against the machinations of such heartless rogues.

"CAUTIOUS" (Bow) wants us to explain the *snowball-system* of trading. You spend 6d. on a coupon. This entitles you to buy four more coupons for 2s. If you sell these to four friends for 6d. each and induce them each to spend 2s. on four more coupons, you may eventually begin to get some small return for your money.

(*Continued on page* 894.)

A Quartermaster-Sergeant's Child

St. Vitus Dance, After-Effects of Fever

Safe and sound, no longer helpless, no longer speechless—*that* is the direct effect of Phosferine, says Mrs. Knight, speaking of her bonny child, now glowing with happiness, and brimming over with life. It seems difficult to realise that her bright, active little girl is the same child who, a few months ago, lay in hopeless suffering, unable to speak, helpless under the seizures of St. Vitus Dance, despaired of by doctors, until Mrs. Knight had the inspiration to try Phosferine. Speedily the anguish of the parents gave way to a thrill of joy, as they saw that the new nerve force imparted by Phosferine steadily overcame the twitchings of St. Vitus Dance, and allowed the child to speak distinctly. Under the stimulus of Phosferine this improvement *went on* until every trace of the St. Vitus Dance, the weakness and after-effects of fever, was banished by the tonic which has *given back* to the devoted mother the best thing in the world—her *child*.

Magnificently Swept Away

Mrs. Knight, 11A, New Married Quarters, Artillery Place, Woolwich, writes:—"My little daughter, aged 5, derived the utmost benefit from Phosferine. She had Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, and after recovering contracted St. Vitus Dance in a very bad form. For months her condition was most deplorable; it was impossible for her to be left, her actions being so incessant and irresponsible; she *lost her speech* and became as *helpless* and unintelligible as a baby. All means were resorted to in order to restore her health. The military doctors were consulted, and treatment obtained from the Children's Hospital, but to no avail. Her case appeared so hopeless that I almost despaired of her ever recovering. I resolved to try Phosferine for my little girl, and I gave her three drops in a little water three times daily, and very soon noticed a *decided* improvement, the twitchings and movements became less, and she began to speak more intelligibly. When I had administered a course of four or five small phials she was *completely cured*."—February 21st, 1911.

PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

Neuralgia	Premature Decay	Anæmia
Rheumatism	Maternity Weakness	Malaria
Brain-fag	Nervous Headaches	Sleeplessness
Indigestion	Sciatica	Nervousness

and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

THE ROYAL TONIC.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Commands

To the Royal Family
H.I.M. the Dowager Empress of Russia
H.M. the Queen of Roumania
H.M. the King of Greece
H.M. the King of Spain
The Imperial Family of China
And the Principal Royalty and Aristocracy throughout the World

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

A Money-Making GAME—

MISSING LINKS.

£100 IN PRIZES

AGAIN THIS WEEK.

You have tried limericks and possibly have never invented a winning line. Has the fault been yours? Probably not. The task may have been too difficult or the judging not wise, but whether you have or not, you should try the latest thing in competitions, "The Missing Link"—the most entertaining and simple prize scheme ever evolved.

Every Reader of "John Bull" should enter.

What is the Missing Link? Here is the idea in a nutshell. In each week's issue of "Mrs. Bull" is given a verse from which one line is missing. All you have to do is to complete the verse. Find what you consider to be the cleverest and aptest line, send it in and win a prize. The following is this week's verse:—

Young Percy, when he missed the train,
Resolved to go by aeroplane
To Potsdam. As he crossed the sea,
.....

Readers of JOHN BULL can make use of the free coupon below, which fill in and send *with a postal order for 6d.* to "Mrs. Bull," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., by Tuesday, June 6. Mark your envelopes "Link." Ten big cash prizes will be awarded to the owners of the ten best lines, and various cash prizes to those next in order of merit.

Read the Conditions below.

1. Send a line to complete the above verse.
2. All lines must be written on the coupon below, additional coupons to be taken from JOHN BULL or "Mrs. Bull," but all should be sent in one envelope.
3. For every two lines you send you must remit a Postal Order for Sixpence and each Postal Order should be made payable to the Editor, "Mrs. Bull," and should be crossed "and Co."
4. All the money received (less 10 per cent. for working expenses) will be divided amongst the successful competitors.
5. To the senders of the ten best lines, Large Cash Prizes will be awarded, and other Cash Prizes to numbers of others sending the next best lines. *Not less than £100 will be awarded this week, but it may be considerably more.*
6. In everything connected with the Competition the Editor's decision will be absolutely final, and readers may enter only on that clear understanding. No correspondence whatever can be entered into in connection with this competition.

Remember you can send two lines for each Sixpence that you remit. You are not bound to send two. One alone may win.

All lines must reach "Mrs. Bull," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., by Tuesday, June 6th.

Mark your envelopes "Link."

FREE COUPON.

COUPON No. 10, closing Tuesday, June 6.

MISSING LINK COMPETITION.

Line suggested .....

Second Line suggested .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

No. of Postal Order .....

CLOTHES PHILOSOPHY

EXPENSIVE clothes are not always good clothes, neither are good clothes always expensive. What we mean is that it takes almost as long to cut a suit badly as to cut it well; in fact, often bad clothes take longer to cut than good clothes. So it is with the making of a garment. A good craftsman will produce a high-class garment in less time than it will take a mediocre craftsman to make an inferior garment.

The Curzon service has devoted years of study to the production of high-class artistic, distinctive tailoring at a minimum of cost.

Pure Wool Suits to Measure from 23/6 to 45/-
Our Coronation Blue Serge Suits warranted to withstand sun, sea and sodium. To measure, 27/6. Very marvellous value.

Our business has been established years, and is confined not merely to London, but extends to the Continent, South Africa, Canada, and Australia. We have clients and friends all over the world, men who realise what tailoring comfort means, and who have given us their unfaltering custom for years.

Our fashion booklet and guide to correct dress is an artistic production that should be in the hands of every man who studies comfort and appearance. Our selection of cloths representing the choicest designs of the leading mills of the country will be forwarded to you on receipt of your inquiry. Those residing out of town, and who cannot call at our showrooms, are guaranteed absolute satisfaction and perfect fit from our own special registered self-measurement chart.

Patterns, Fashion Plate, and the Curzon Special Measure Chart sent to any address on receipt of post-card.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY RETURNED.

Those Residing in London should call—

CURZON BROS.

The International Tailors,

LONDON:
60 & 62, City Road, 133 & 135, Oxford Street.
PARIS: 130, Rue de Rivoli.
BRUSSELS: 2, Rue de la Bourse.
LIEGE: 33, Rue Pont d'Avroy.
ANTWERP: 55, Place de Meir.

J. P. (Brighton) has resided in *Buenos Aires* for over forty years and writes enthusiastically on the excellent *police* regulations there.

W. L. (Hetton-le-Hole) says the Durham County Council has been raising the *salaries of education clerks* and reducing those of *teachers*. This is remarkable in an elected body composed chiefly of working men's representatives.

J. B. (Holloway) writes, "The *picture palaces are mainly supported by children* not ten years old who are in receipt of free meals provided by the tax-payers. What is your opinion upon this?" Our opinion is that young children cannot be expected to be wage-earners and should not be denied some little pleasures.

"MAN OF KENT" (Chester) considers *betting a mug's game*, and thinks we ought not to encourage it by inserting book-makers' advertisements and encouraging poor people to lose their money. Yes, but people will bet whatever anyone may say or do, and it is better for them to deal with the decent firms.

H. B. (Byfleet).—Not at all; he felt as happy as could be.

C. F. B. (Stamford) saw an advertisement of the *Vigo Co.*, (poultry food specialists, 21, Baker Street, Bursiem), "immediate dispatch" being one of the attractions. On April 5th he sent them cash by registered post; after waiting nearly three weeks he wrote asking for the return of his money, as he had had to purchase elsewhere. But they still remain silent. What do they say?

S. K. (Leeds).—We should think *a Derby Sweep* run by a strange Scotch gentleman in Switzerland would not tempt very many speculators, but we seem to remember a proverb about sportsmen and their money being soon parted.

"SOLD" (Ipswich) has been taken in by the *Milanese Mandoline College of Music*, Providence Street, Cornhill, Ipswich. He thought he was risking only 4s. 6d., but found that he was responsible for 58s. 6d.

T. W. (Hucknall) is a decaying tradesman who wanted a job *on the census*, but was told that headquarters required preference to be given to school-teachers.

"MULTUM IN PARVO" (Newport) disparages our suggestion that he should be certified as a lunatic, because he thinks he can *square the circle*. But will he be able to square the doctors?

"A DEVOTED ADHERENT" (Dublin) bears out our correspondent's tale about a *Picture Palace Pest*. She has been insulted no less than four times, and intends to run no further risks.

A. H. W. (Sunderland) says the *Hygienic Institute*, 1, Summer Hill, Sunderland, are constantly changing their title, and that "they have a large elitric lamp in the poorch" of above address, which causes his cock thrush to sing at unnatural hours, and so attract attention to their state of affairs. Perhaps they think this is a sweet use of advertisement.

"ACCIDENT" (Paris).—Believe his *engine failed*, so down he came too rapidly.

A. writes: "Don't put me name in the Paper oblige," and we are obliged to oblige because he has not trusted us with it at all, at all. However, we are always glad to have a go at blood-suckers like *Swyers, of the Commercial Advance Co.* A. "payed 3s. for visiting fees for a loan of £5 and got a seuerity" and then received only £3. He had better apply to the Courts for relief on the grounds of harsh and unconscionable interest.

"MIDLAND CLERK" (Nottingham) says that *station-masters* have only themselves to blame for their long-standing grievances, as clerks obtain all they ask for from the railways without any difficulty.

W.B. (Chelsea) informs us that "some horses are superior to others," and that "these *foreign riders* get first-class mounts picked out for them, and then they can't win, the sporting writer fights for the foreigners, praises them up if they only win a selling race. I am fighting for our poor lads, I get nothing for my trouble, but I know the game. A man or lad have no control or power on a horse riding in the Yankee style, only read the reports of races, they fall off and come down smash and break the horses' legs. Where are the stewards to allow it? The fact is they can't ride themselves, they show their riding off in Rotten Row and have a chat with the ladies." Evidently a man with a grievance.

E. D. (New Southgate) complains of the *gas and water rates* there: Gas, 3s. 6d. per thousand, and 1s. per quarter for meter rent; water, 41s. a year.

"LINKS" (Sudbury).—"He went to *Berlin on the Spree*" was sent in by hundreds.

C. M. (Edinburgh) is one of many correspondents who disapprove of the *Insurance Bill*. He says, "The remotest parts of the country have their parish doctor, cottage hospital and nurse, every town convalescent homes, infirmaries, hospitals for consumption, for cancer, and enough money spent on them to meet all the demands. Are these useful institutions going to the scrap-heap? All the institutions in existence now are more than sufficient, but they are muddled and of use more to the officials than to the people. A sane Government, like Japan, first looks after the people being supplied with pure water and pure food; neither are got in this benighted country. There is not an article of diet on the British workman's table but is as ready to kill as to cure. Perhaps that is a reason for the preparation to pick up the people like stray cats and dogs. The scheme is an insult to the manhood of the nation if any manliness is left. It will kill independence, energy, pride in work well done, pride in family and home. I thought begging was a crime. I see it's only when a hungry boy or a starving woman asks for a piece of bread, it's punished. What is a cabbage patch like Ireland doing with the money they beg all the world over? I think the Bill should be opposed out and out."

"PERPLEXED" (Dewsbury) wants a definite assurance about rose-coloured pictures of *conditions in Australia*, but we always advise our friends to stay at home.

H. G. H. (Maidstone) writes to complain that the *girls at a home* there have been ordered to change their Church at the suggestion of one of the largest subscribers. What strange grievances we are called upon to redress!

P. B. (Cardiff) wishes to thank Jim Crow for many laughs, and advises him to spend his holidays this year in *Pembrokeshire*. He writes, "I can recommend it to anyone who wishes to be buried alive. Your Scottish Sabbath is not in it." Evidently just the place for Jim.

"PRESENT EMPLOYER" (Hampton Hill) defends the *London United Tramways*, and says that by 8.15 a.m. every man knows whether he will be required or not. Also that the present management have done away with all suspension, and have done all they can for their men's comfort, providing a splendid recreation room, with billiard table, bagatelle, stage for concerts, and various games. We are always pleased to hear from contented people.

[We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies]

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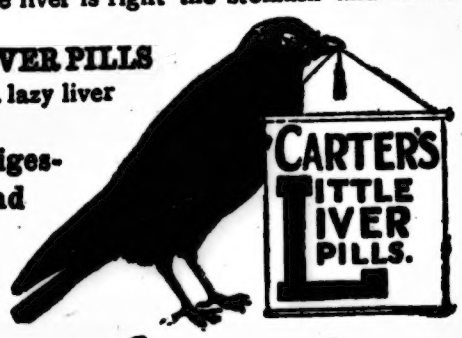

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RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.

("*Larry Lynx*" of The People, "*Double U. L.*" of Lotinga's Weekly, and "*Maggie*" of The Globe.)

Medley.

Owners running more than one horse in Belgian racing are fined unless their jockeys carry distinctive colours.

Whoever the owner is he never cares to be spoken to—or especially condoled with—after one of his expected "good things" has just been beaten.

There is nothing more striking than the perfectly hushed throng packed in the stands and enclosures whilst the horses are at the post for a race.

Truly one cannot possibly bet away from a meeting, for you don't know as a positive fact what runs, and above all what the price is to regulate your investment.

Sir Robert Jardine will not run anything in a selling plate. It is out of such a stable as this that the "little" man has a chance of buying moderate animals at a fair price.

Most of the West-end moneylenders—especially those who are the biggest dealers—go racing regularly and form a very cute little coterie. Some of them, too, bet heavily.

Lady owners are rarely represented at Ascot and the very big meetings, for they recognise that they are out of their element with the moderate animals which they usually possess.

The trouble with most owners, and particularly beginners, is, as trainers put it, that "they can't wait 5 minutes"—expecting to win a race at once, and if they don't they give the game up.

Whenever a backer is, in a sense, not *needing* to win, he is more likely to do so; but whenever you are either anxious to do so, or it is absolutely necessary, the odds against success are incalculable.

How many horses are saved to their respective stables out of selling plates by the exchange of friendly claims, the 2nd usually claiming the 3rd, and the owner of the 3rd putting in a demand for the 2nd.

Some horses never do well, or run their races out, away from home; in contrast, there are just a few who run their best races when they are off their own Heath at Newmarket, at a venue which is fresh to them.

Donoghue, although an Irish boy, served his time in France, and therefore is always at an advantage in riding among the jockeys there, while he is conversant with the peculiarity of almost every French racecourse.

The 5s. ring at some of the big meetings, say, for instance, Kempton, is practically deserted nowadays, and only retained because it pays well two days in the year, viz., on Easter Monday and at the "Jubilee" meeting.

Our jockeys were never more cosmopolitan than at the present moment, for we have Shaw from Africa, Whalley from India, Buck from America, G. Stern from France, with Thompson and others from Ireland. Moreover, they all get plenty of riding too.

Bridge House, Maidenhead, one of the most beautiful and famous riverside residences, was for sale at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, last Tuesday, and as it must be disposed of I hope some good sportsman will become the possessor of this ideal summer home by private deal. It must be sold at any fair price and is a rare bargain, for £25,000 was refused for this freehold house and grounds 10 years ago.

Prophetic.

The Thursday is always the betting card of the Epsom week, and provides at least two good things. One of them—Lemberg, who, being thoroughly himself, should win the Coronation Cup, whilst our City and Suburban tip,

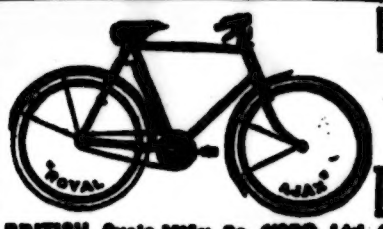
Avernus

is good each way for the Durdans Plate. One of the crack 3 year-olds St. Anton or Cigar may gain the Royal Stakes. In the Oaks, which is a great lottery, a place at least should be secured by

Knockfeerna

and in the Chipstead Plate, follow Tim Healy who is certain to win a race, whilst exactly the same remark applies to Eblis either here or at Hurst Park. The best thing of the Kempton programme is Canonite in the Selling Plate. Dalnacrag or Hendred will take the Kingston Handicap, and Long Set go close for his race.

At Hurst Park on Bank Holiday, Eblis is in the chief handicap and will win it if saved for this, whilst Waller might well have a double win by the success of Gala Tweed, at last, in the Vyner Handicap. On Tuesday I really think Forerunner II. worth support.



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The following claims have been received for our issue of April 15th and 22nd:—

JOHN PRESCOTT, 31, The Esplanade, Sandgate. No. 738,921. April 15th.

EDWARD V. PAYNE, 54, Aston Church Road, Nechells, Birmingham. No. 612,123. April 22nd.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of May 6th:—

10096	189178	310761	534480	709911
10787	194198	311387	537741	726931
15648	201402	327499	568022	741048
36059	208412	348381	573739	754377
65218	218419	367146	589820	773187
113390	231266	415482	604984	795382
121723	238927	434976	617923	805473
139304	245419	445254	631762	835695
148319	260498	470003	643549	840928
168734	278022	474153	671557	841548

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED JULY 1ST (PUBLISHED JUNE 29TH).

The John Bull League.

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The General Secretary,
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

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with "The Prince of Turf Accountants" (vide "Black and White," April 22, 1911), or SEND a DEPOSIT for ANY AMOUNT to BASLE and be PREPARED.

NO LIMIT ANY RACE WIN OR PLACE
even if the Favourite starts Odds On.

33 or 50 to 1 a "Place" will be paid if returned, even though your Turf Accountant is limiting your winnings to 2 to 1 a "Place" over the same race. Examine YOUR book of rules!!

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The TEST of GENEROSITY is not in praising oneself in Advertisements, but in Paying the FULL PRICE, on EVERY RACE, WIN or PLACE, even if Favourite starts "Odds On." Examine YOUR book of rules at once.

RELIABILITY.

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